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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.

RENEWED PEACE.

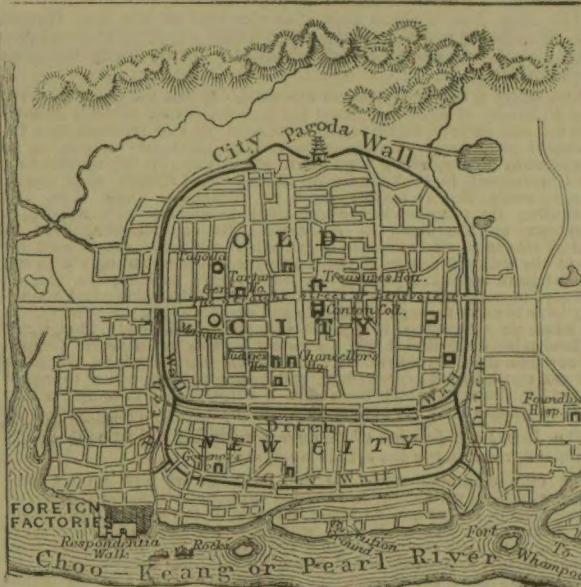
THE star of England is once more in the ascendant. There was a time, not very remote, when it seemed to be obscured by the inexperience or the incapacity of our officials; by the lukewarmness of our Government in carrying on a struggle, on the success of which the people had set their hearts; and when the capture of the Malakoff by the French afforded a pretext to all who were jealous of or hostile to our influence in Europe, to assert that our power was on the wane, and that our glory had long since reached its culmination. But that day has passed. Whatever may have been thought or desired a year ago, it is now patent to the world that Great Britain was never stronger or more influential than she is now; that the burden of war which pressed on other empires and states with intolerable severity was scarcely felt in this richer and more vigorous nation; and that any efforts, however stupendous, which the people and the Government may have made in past times to maintain the equilibrium of Europe and their own high position in the councils of the world would by no means overtax their energies at the present time, but might be easily exceeded at the first sound of danger, or the first promptings of duty.

To the British Government, Press, and People, and to the knowledge that there were a fine army and a still finer navy in reserve to back their high pretensions, the result is entirely owing. When the preliminaries of peace were signed in March, 1856, the people almost unanimously felt that terms by far too merciful and too favourable had been accorded to the ambitious Power which, for its own selfish purposes, had thrown Europe into confusion. The press, with still greater unanimity, gave expression to the popular feeling; and when it was found that Russia, emboldened by the leniency that had been shown her, endeavoured to take advantage of her own wrong, and retain, in spite of the obvious intentions of the framers of the Treaty, two points of the Turkish dominions which would have enabled her to dominate both in the

Euxine and on the Danube, Lord Palmerston, with equal courage and sagacity, threw himself upon the English people, and determined, even though England should fight the battle single-handed, to compel Russia to the strict and equitable observance of the contract which was the sole result of a two years' conflict.

Let Lord Palmerston have the credit of this boldness, and of the success which rewarded it. He did not miscalculate the force of honesty of purpose, nor rely in vain upon the moral sentiment of his countrymen to support him in a wise and dignified policy. The

difficulties in his path were many and formidable. France had reaped glory enough in the war, and looked with the gloomiest apprehensions on the possibility of its renewal. The Emperor had either pledged himself to support the Russian interpretation of the Treaty, or considered the possession of Bolgrad and the Isle of Serpents a matter of too little importance to be worth a struggle. Sardinia sided with France as her nearest neighbour and most essential ally. Turkey was either too helpless to urge her wishes with effect, or her effete Administration was too indifferent to the future to care for anything but present repose, and lay at the command of the Powers which had aided her to adjourn *sine die* the question of her dismemberment. Austria was estranged and offended; and her Emperor and Ministers were mistrustful of the English people and of English statesmen, and more especially of Lord Palmerston, whose name to them was all but synonymous with encouragement to rebellion in Hungary and Lombardy. Where, then, was Lord Palmerston to look for support out of his own country? Nowhere but in France, and in France the needful support was not immediately rendered. But the statesmen of Austria saw the opportunity, and took advantage of it. If Russia retained the mouths of the Danube, the horrors of the next war, come when it might, would fall upon Austria rather than upon Turkey. Russia owed the Austrians a debt of revenge which the possession of Bolgrad and the Isle of Serpents would help her to discharge. For once Austria was bold, and she has reaped her reward. She forgot the Hungarian grievance, and the sympathies of the English press, people, and Government with the Italians, and united herself cordially with Lord Palmerston in wresting justice from Russia, even though a renewal of the war might have been the result. Russia declined the chances of the struggle. Foiled on the battle-field by the united forces of Great Britain and France, she was foiled a second time on the field of diplomacy by the united efforts of Great Britain and Austria. The result is the Peace of 1857, which is a more satisfactory, and therefore a more stable, peace than that of 1856,



PLAN OF THE CITY OF CANTON.



BOMBARDMENT OF CANTON: THE SUBURBS ON FIRE.—FROM A SKETCH BY AN OFFICER ENGAGED IN THE OPERATIONS.—(SEE PAGE



because it is unaccompanied by the triumph of chicanery and cheating; and because it has inflicted upon Russia a moral defeat which will do her more damage than the loss of Sebastopol. She may rebuild a broken fortress, but she can never wipe from the remembrance of living men, or from the page of history, the fact that she attempted to regain by fraud what she had lost by the hazard of war; and that she was foiled by the force of honesty as completely as she had previously been foiled by the force of arms. So may it ever be with the wrong-doer, both among nations and among individuals!

And while this cloud has blown from the horizon, another, which threatened storm, has likewise passed away. Means have been discovered to save the not very valuable dignity of the King of Prussia, without doing violence to the rights or to the feelings of the Swiss people—a matter of infinitely more serious concern to every body in Europe. The question of Neufchâtel and its sovereignty has been finally disposed of, and there is an end to all apprehension in that quarter. But, grateful as the nations must be for the removal of one source of disquietude, it behoves the Governments of Europe, ere they make too sure of the peace which seems dawning upon them, to consider carefully whether the danger is at an end elsewhere. No one suspected a few months ago that any question relative to Switzerland would arise to disturb the peace of the world; and there may be many agencies, both popular and dynastic, at work in Europe, which may quite as unexpectedly imperil the new-born peace at which all good men are now rejoicing. At present the most obvious danger is in Italy; and, unfortunately, the good understanding which we have so lately re-established with Austria is not likely to produce any durable results. If the Italians would be satisfied with reforms, and with a moderate degree of constitutional liberty, our influence might be favourably exerted with Austria in furtherance of such objects. But the Italians naturally desire independence; and Austria is not likely to grant it to them unless at the sword's point. This is the existing danger of Europe, and it will, we fear, continue to be a danger for a long time. The fire smoulders, and will one day break out. The Powers of Europe should look to it, now that their hands are free, or there may yet come a conflagration which may involve them all.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE NEUFCHATEL QUESTION.

The *Patrie* announces that the King of Prussia is disposed to accede to the propositions suggested by France as a mediator for the definitive arrangement of the Prussian-Swiss difference. His Prussian Majesty, independently of the liberation of the Royalist prisoners, would demand, as an indemnity for the abandonment of his rights of sovereignty, the formal acknowledgment of his titles as private property to the castles of Neufchâtel and Locle, as well as the domains appertaining to them. The revenue of those domains, amounting to from 18,000 to 20,000 thalers, to be employed in acts of charity at Neufchâtel itself. The Prussian flag to be hoisted on the two castles.

A telegraphic despatch from Berne, dated January 13, states that the Message of the Federal Council to the Federal Assembly proposes to discontinue the law proceedings commenced against the Royalist prisoners at Neufchâtel, and to decree their liberation, on condition of their leaving the territory of the Helvetic Confederation until after the official conclusion of the arrangement. The same document proposes to suspend the armaments, and to send the troops to their homes. The message announces that the Ministers of Austria and Russia at Berne have communicated to the Federal Council notes in conformity with those of France and England.

The discussion of the proposition by the Federal Assembly was postponed till the 15th, the day on which the delay fixed by Prussia for the military movement expired. The Berlin and Paris Ministerial papers are at great pains to show that nothing has been done which can in the slightest affect the honour of Prussia.

The *New Prussian Gazette* of Tuesday last positively denies that Prussia has contracted any other engagement than that of entering into diplomatic negotiations on the affair of Neufchâtel as soon as the prisoners shall have been set at liberty unconditionally. It adds, that no great Power has requested any other promise.

THE ENGLISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

The fleet under Lord Lyons had received news of its eventual departure when the *Egyptus* left Constantinople, but Lord Lyons had also been informed that he would have to remain in the Black Sea as long as the Austrians were in the Principalities. The Admiral has accordingly sent to Malta for provisions.

THE WAR WITH PERSIA.

By the *Egyptus*, which arrived at Marseilles on Tuesday, we have news from Constantinople to the 5th inst. The accounts from the seat of war, received through that channel, are very meagre. The English fleet in the Persian Gulf are hurrying on their operations, in order to have them over before three months, when the great heats set in. The English incite the governors of provinces to separate from Persia. The Shah is making extensive preparations for defence, notwithstanding the penury of his treasury and the fear of revolts. A Persian army had taken possession of all the towns situated on the roads to Candahar. The Russian flotilla on the Caspian Sea has already landed troops on the Persian Islands, alleging ancient treaties of alliance of Russia with Persia. The Russian Ambassador, Amkoff, has left Teheran, charged, it is said, to demand assistance for Persia at St. Petersburg. According to the *Journal de Constantinople*, Persia is in a state bordering on anarchy, and the Shah, who does not consider himself in safety on his throne, and who fears for his life, has written to the Czar, requesting him to protect his sons and his dynasty.

Letters from St. Petersburg in the *Constitutionnel* of Thursday speak of an intrigue in Teheran to depose the present Shah, and to put Mourad Mirza in his place. The Russian troops have occupied many islands of the great and little bays of Balkan, and have established their head-quarters on the island of Keftehnoi.

Other letters from St. Petersburg speak of the Shah's application to the Czar for aid, and of his intention to cede to Russia in exchange for assistance "all the territory comprised between the town of Bajazid, chief town of a pashalik, and Nachsitschewan, which separates in Armenia the Russian possessions from those of Turkey."

THE WAR IN CHINA.

The advices from China by the last Overland Mail are looked for with much interest. Private telegraphic despatches have been received, which bring the accounts from Canton to the 24th November. These advices state that hostilities continued; that the Americans had engaged in the struggle; and that trade remained consequently at a stand-still. Rumour adds, in explanation of the engagement of the Americans in the strife, that the price offered by the Chinese Governor for the heads of the English led to the murder of three Americans in mistake for our countrymen. The heads of the Americans were stuck by the Chinese on the walls of Canton. The American papers received by last mail contain some interesting statements regarding the relations of the Western Republic with the Celestial Empire. A report in the *Patrie*, that, according to a treaty recently concluded between Russia and China, Russia was to have a seaport, with 3000 acres of land adjoining, granted to her in perpetuity, on the south coast of Chusan, to be henceforth a Russian possession, had furnished a prolific theme to the American press.

The *New York Times*, a Republican organ, strongly opposed to Filibustering, says:

Our Government at Washington ought to be wide awake on the question of our relations with China, and employ negotiators who will not be outwitted by Chinese cunning. The time is approaching when our present treaty with China will have terminated, and a new one will require to be made. On such an occasion will the Cabinet at Washington allow the

United States to be treated as an inferior nation? Shall we be denied the privilege of having a diplomatic agent at Pekin, while Russia maintains one there? We have a naval force strong enough to make the Chinese sensible of our greatness, and to enforce demands which the interests of commerce as well as our national dignity justify us in making. Let us hope that the coming Administration will not overlook this subject.

AMERICA.

By the Royal mail steam-ship *Canada*, which arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday morning, we have news from New York to the 31st ult., and by telegraph, via Halifax, to the 1st inst. The slavery question, under some form or other, still continues to engross public attention. The proposal for the open revival of the slave trade does not meet with much encouragement, but the high price of negroes has given a great impetus to the clandestine traffic in Africans. The *New York Tribune* says, it is a matter of certainty that New York has been for a number of years the centre of the trade in slaves between the coast of Africa and Cuba. The number of slaves dispatched from New York within the last three years, though not easy to state with precision, did not fall short of twenty-five or thirty. But, though only one of the three vessels captured has been condemned, and only two out of forty-six persons held to answer convicted, the efforts of the United States' District Attorney and Deputy Marshals appear to have been not entirely thrown away. A number of the most active participants in the traffic have been driven out of the city, and several slave captains and persons who visited New York with the object of buying or of fitting up vessels. The Portuguese Consul has been suspended from his functions on suspicion of complicity. A steam revenue-cutter has lately been fitted out at New York for the prevention of Filibustering and the slave trade.

A bill is before the Arkansas Legislature to compel all free negroes to leave the State, under penalty of immediate sale into slavery for life. A bill allowing negroes, Indians, and mulattoes to give evidence in cases where white persons are parties has passed the Senate branch of the Iowa Legislature by a vote of 19 to 18. A bill "to encourage and promote matrimony" has been introduced into the Legislature of North Carolina.

The South Carolina Legislature, before its adjournment (on the 20th December), amended the law relative to coloured seamen arriving in that port. Hereafter they are not to be imprisoned. They are only required to remain on board their vessels, and shipmasters give bonds securing their obedience to the laws of the State. This is a step in the right direction. This barbarous law, hereby repealed, was a disgrace to the State, and a source of annoyance and trouble to all vessels visiting the port of Charleston with negro seamen on board. It is one of the new signs now thickening of the relaxation of that ferocious spirit which has till now characterised American slavery. It appears that the Legislature also refused to act on the matter of the revival of the slave trade, which was so unblushingly forced upon their attention by Governor Adams, and that he failed also of a re-election. His successor is quite a different man.

The *New York Tribune* says that the text of the last Central American treaty which appeared in the *Times*, extracted from the *New York Herald*, was surreptitiously obtained. Of the treaty the same journal says:

This treaty is one of very grave character. It has no parallel in the past diplomacy of our Government but that negotiated between Messrs. Clayton and Bulwer, which it far outvies in all that rendered that instrument remarkable. Its recognition of the Mosquito savages as an independent Power, with a large extent of territory; its stipulations that our Government, in connection with that of Great Britain, shall undertake to settle the reciprocal limits of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Mosquito; its singular and complicated provisions with respect to Greytown or San Juan de Nicaragua; its express recognition of British Honduras, and attempts to define her boundaries, are at least far out of the ordinary course of our diplomacy, contrast strongly with our current Jeers at British assumption with regard to Mosquito, and are just such as none other than a democratic Administration could reasonably hope to carry through the Senate and sustain before the country. On the whole we are inclined to approve and uphold this treaty, though not without misgivings that it will ultimately involve us in worse complications than those it resolves. We consider its stipulations in the main fair and equal, though entangling; and we are inclined rather to regret that exigencies exist which demand such a treaty, than to complain that those exigencies have not been more wisely met.

The *New York Journal of Commerce* urges an adjustment of the tariff, and, referring to the article wool, says:

The only difference would be that, whereas we now import over 30,000,000 dollars per annum in woollens manufactured for us abroad, we should then be encouraged to bring out part of the wool in a raw state, and manufacture it here. We are willing to leave it to the decision of any man with plain common sense if the bringing in of foreign raw wool to manufacture here would afford any more injurious competition to our woolgrowers than the importation of the same wool already manufactured. We cannot secure the wool to manufacture ourselves unless we admit it on the same terms as England. This argument applies with equal force to other raw materials.

THE NEGRO INSURRECTION.

The negro-insurrection panic in the South shows no symptom of abatement. The Pro-Slavery journals are at a loss what to say about the affair; having brought the evil upon themselves by their unwise agitation in favour of slavery extension. As slaves are now valuable property the planters are not very willing to hang those who are suspected of plotting treason; but the mob frequently takes that part of the business out of the masters' hands. A Tennessee paper speaks of a Senator Bell, who has lost 10,000 dollars' worth of slaves in that way. During his absence four of his negroes were hung by one of the local courts, and five others by command of Judge Lynch. The following paragraphs from various Southern papers will give some notion of the excitement which prevails in that part of the union:

Two slaves, the property of Mr. Henry Dangerfield, were arrested and committed to gaol on Friday last, and on Sunday five others were also committed. Those first arrested are said to have given some information, or to have made some disclosures, concerning an insurrection on which public apprehension appears to be based. In consequence of these circumstances, public meetings of the citizens of this district were held on Saturday and Monday last for the organisation of patrols, and for taking other action in the premises.—*Marlborough Advocate*.

Just before going to press three slaves—Joe, Tom, and Vincent—the property of Mrs. George L. Kerfoot, near Millwood, and a free negro, named Alfred Thompson, have been lodged in our gaol for attempting insurrection. We learn that these negroes expressed themselves before the justice who committed them as familiar with a plot of insurrection to commence in our county, and also at Harper's Ferry, two months from the first day of November last; and, further, that they had heard white men and negroes talking if Fremont was elected they would be free, and as they knew he was not, they were prepared to fight for it, and threatened the lives of two of our most worthy citizens as the first they intended to take.

A letter from Jackson, Mississippi, dated the 21st ult., says:

Our town is in a perfect state of excitement to-day, in consequence of rumours of an intended negro insurrection, to take place during the holidays. The mayor has issued a proclamation calling upon the citizens to organise and prepare to crush the insurrection in its bud. Twenty-seven negroes have been arrested this morning. The extent of the plot is not known. Feelings of doubt and anxiety are universal. Our citizens are in a fearful state of excitement. The particulars of this excitement are hard to obtain; and, although universal, the origin and foundation are very difficult to ascertain. Rumours from Canton, Mississippi, also have reached us of a similar state of affairs. How far North Alabama may be in danger we cannot say with certainty, but there are rumours of rebellion in that quarter.

A telegraphic communication from Louisville, Kentucky, under date the 29th of December, says:

There was great excitement at the Court-house here on Saturday, in consequence of the examination of the negroes who are charged with murdering the Joyce family. William Joyce, a brother, proposed that the negroes be burnt, to which the crowd responded "Ay," but they were finally quieted by the Court, and the negroes remanded to prison. The presumptive evidence against the negroes is strong, but there is nothing direct against them save the confession of one of their number.

YOUNG LADIES SHOULD NOT SMOKE IN BED.—A young Russian lady of rank, the Countess N., very nearly lost her life two or three weeks ago in the house of her father, the Governor of Moscow, by a very singular accident. It is stated in *La Patrie* that the Countess had been indulging, as usual, in the habit of smoking and at the same time reading in bed. The double narcotic very soon set her asleep; but she awoke soon after in terror to find her bed on fire, the linen sheets having been ignited by the end of her cigarette. She jumped out of bed, fortunately without being burnt, and rushed to the door; but it had been bolted, and in her fright she could not open it. She then broke the window, and called loudly for help. The sentinel on duty at the gate below instantly gave the alarm, the lady's chamber door was forced open, and the fire was extinguished. She was not hurt, but only frightened.

THE GREAT BULLION ROBBERY.

The trial of the prisoners Burgess, Pierce, and Tester, for the robbery of bullion on the South-Eastern Railway, commenced at the Central Criminal Court on Tuesday last. The court was opened at nine o'clock, and very soon afterwards a good portion of it was occupied by persons who had been admitted by tickets to hear the proceedings. Although the case, from the extraordinary nature of the circumstances connected with it, evidently excited a great deal of interest, the court, owing to the excellent arrangements made by the Under Sheriffs, was at no time at all inconveniently crowded, and the trial proceeded without the slightest confusion. At ten o'clock Mr. Baron Martin and Mr. Justice Willes took their seats on the bench, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen Humphry and Sir F. G. Moon, Mr. Sheriff Mechi, Mr. Sheriff Keats, Mr. Under Sheriff Crosley, and Mr. Under Sheriff Anderson. The prisoners were then placed at the bar. There were four indictments. The first charged the prisoners with stealing two hundred pounds weight of gold, value £12,000, the property of their employers, the South-Eastern Railway Company; the second charged them with stealing a number of bars of gold and some gold coins, the property of the same prosecutors; the third charged them with stealing the same property in the dwelling-house of the prosecutors; and the fourth charged the prisoners with feloniously receiving the property knowing it to have been stolen. The prisoners pleaded "Not guilty" to the whole of the charges.

Sergeant Shee attended specially, with Mr. Bodkin, and Mr. Monk, of the Northern Circuit, to conduct the prosecution; Mr. Sergeant Ballantine attended specially, with Mr. Sleigh, to defend Tester; Mr. Sergeant Parry, also specially retained, with Mr. Ribton, appeared for Pierce; and Mr. Giffard, Mr. Poland, and Mr. F. H. Lewis, defended Burgess.

Mr. Sergeant Shee opened the case for the prosecution in a long speech, and went over the whole narrative of the robbery, which, as he remarked, had been committed under circumstances that evinced the greatest possible skill and ingenuity on the part of those engaged in it. They would in all probability have escaped from justice altogether if an equal amount of skill and energy had not been exhibited on the part of those who had conducted the prosecution in taking the necessary steps to make out the charge against them.

Edward Agar, now under sentence of transportation for life for uttering a forged banker's cheque, was the principal witness. In the cross-examination he stated that he was in the service of a linendraper about fourteen years ago, or perhaps twenty years; he could not be positive. Since he left that he had never been in any regular situation. He made his living for a number of years by speculating in various things. For nearly the whole of the time since he left the service of the linendraper he had been leading a life of crime.

The principal witness examined on Wednesday was Fanny Bolan Kay, through whom the clue to the robbery was first given. She stated that the arrangement made by Agar, when apprehended for forgery, was that Pierce should pay her £1 a week. After a short time he broke through the arrangement; and she went and made a communication to the Governor of Newgate, and afterwards to Mr. Rees, solicitor to the South-Eastern Railway Company.

Mr. Rees, who was examined by Mr. Bodkin, said: In consequence of what he had been told he went to Kilburn Villa, where Agar lived, and found a cellar under the steps leading to the house, where the ground had been disturbed, the earth dug out, and the hole filled up with cinders. There were Turkish bonds to the amount of £2000 found in the house, leases, deeds, and 1000 £ for different sums. He went to a house in Cambridge Villas on the 22nd of September, and up stairs found an ordinary stove. He caused it to be removed, and behind it found three firebricks alluded to by Agar in his evidence. The chimney was free from soot, and had evidently been subject to great heat. The floor was burnt, and, having taken up the boards, he found several small pieces of gold which had got between them.

A number of other witnesses were examined whose evidence corroborated that of Agar.

Mr. Sergeant Parry, before addressing the jury on the part of Pierce, which he hoped their Lordships would not ask him to do that night, wished to know on which count it was proposed to proceed?

Mr. Sergeant Shee said that they did not seek to convict the prisoners for a felony committed in a dwelling-house, that count being merely put into the declaration to meet an objection, as it might be urged that the whole station was a dwelling-house belonging to the South-Eastern Railway Company. It was true that at the time of the robbery Pierce was not a servant in the employment of the South-Eastern Railway Company; but, as he plotted and contrived with a servant of the company to commit a robbery, he was properly indicted for robbery committed as a servant.

Mr. Baron Martin took an objection to this view of the law as set up by the learned sergeant.

Mr. Bodkin said formerly it would have been necessary to indict the prisoner as an accessory before the fact, but by the passing of Lord Campbell's Act that was no longer necessary, for he could be indicted as a principal.

Mr. Sergeant Parry said he conceived, as at present advised, that he should only have to address the jury for Pierce on the question of larceny.

Mr. Baron Martin, having consulted with Mr. Justice Willes, said it was clear that Pierce was not a receiver.

Mr. Sergeant Parry said, if the case now stood adjourned, he should be able to condense the observations he should have to offer in defence of his client.

On Thursday Mr. Sergeant Parry addressed the Court on behalf of Pierce. Mr. Giffard followed on the part of Burgess, and Mr. Sergeant Ballantine on behalf of Tester. The latter said he thought the jury would come to the conclusion that the evidence of Agar was not a true history, but an elaborate fiction got up with devilish ingenuity. The jury, however, did not take that view of the case. They retired at five o'clock, and in ten minutes brought in a verdict of "Guilty." Baron Martin then sentenced Burgess and Tester to fourteen years' transportation. As regards Pierce he said a greater villain did not exist in the world (Loud cheers in court). He should inflict upon him the most severe sentence which the law allowed him to pass—namely, two years' hard labour—with, during that time, three months, the 1st, 12th, and 24th, solitary confinement. He regretted that he could not pass a more severe sentence upon Pierce, who was far worse than either of the others.

THE NEW BANK AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—The following is given by the Constantinople correspondent of *La Presse* as the official project for the formation of a National Imperial Bank at Constantinople, which has been accepted by Mr. Wilkin on behalf of a company of English capitalists:—"The Imperial Government desires to establish, exclusively privileged for thirty years, an Imperial National Bank, with a capital of from £10,000,000 to £12,000,000 sterling, about £8,000,000 of which shall serve as a reserve for the use of the Government and its authorities, in proportions to be officially stated, and the rest for the affairs of agriculture, &c. The bank will be constituted as nearly as possible upon the model of the Banks of France and England. The concessionaires shall engage to open subscription lists in England, France, Germany, and Turkey, and to leave them open for the same time and on the same conditions in each country. The maximum of the interest which this bank will be entitled to receive from the Imperial Government for all the necessary advances required for the monetary reform specified in the first article shall not exceed 6 per cent per annum, and it is understood that these advances shall be made at par and without discount. The Governor of this Bank, and also a limited number of the directors, shall be appointed by the Imperial Government, and the rest of the directors elected by the subscribers in proportion to the subscriptions taken in each of the above-mentioned countries. A deposit of 2,000,000 sterling shall be made by the concessionaires to serve as a guarantee for the execution of the enterprise. The bank must commence business within six months at latest from the issue of the Imperial firman." The names of the applicants, represented by Mr. Wilkin, are stated as follow:—Messrs. Samuel Laing, M.P.; W. Schofield, M.P.; E. W. Ferne, merchant, London; W. Jackson, M.P. for Newcastle; T. A. Chance, of London; T. Brassey, of the firm of Peto and Co.; A. Darby, of the Ebbw Vale Company; and A. W. Rixon, of London; F. S. Cayley, M.P.; J. C. Ewart, M.P.; Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P.; Hon. Henry Coke, of Holkham; Mr. Mark Hunter, chairman of the Commercial Bank of London.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

It is, of course, improbable that the ceremonial of the opening of Parliament, on Tuesday fortnight, will be graced by the presence of the Sovereign. A more interesting social event is expected to occupy her Majesty at a date now by no means remote. And as the speech from the Throne can contain little congratulatory matter—the completion of the Peace, made eight months ago, being perhaps the exception—its commonplaces can be very properly delivered by the Lord Chancellor, from whom, however, the recommendations to the vigorous law reforms which we are promised will sound rather amusingly. If, too, as is threatened, the Income-tax is to come off only to be put on again, any solemn allusion to such measure of relief will come better from gravity in horsehair than in the sincere tones of the Sovereign. This, we trust, is a loyal view of the case, and the way to make the best of the expected deprivation of her Majesty's presence.

The Chinese "war," according to the latest accounts, seems to be assuming proportions which render it more worthy of that name. Fighting was said to be going on; and the Americans, enraged at the murder of three of their countrymen, whose heads had been set upon the gates of Canton, had made common cause with England, and were rendering her all the co-operation in their power. Meantime the Chinese revolution was prospering, and the chances of the present dynasty did not appear to be so brilliant as heretofore. We observe that a plea is set up on behalf of the Chinese by some excellent men who have lived near them, and who contend that the original nation was both highly civilised and exceedingly humane and hospitable, and that all their vices are of Tartar derivation. Be this as it may, the Chinese say more virtuous speeches and practise more atrocious vices than any nation in the world; and it is rather curious that the same class who, not unfairly, ridiculed the sentimentalism that was talked about the Turk early in the war, are now whining and fondling over the debauched and cruel Chinaman.

It is stated, upon authority of no light character, that the unfortunate man Milano, who attempted to destroy the Neapolitan Sovereign, was subjected to a series of hideous tortures before he was brought to the scaffold. The list is given with so much minuteness that one is alternately sickened at the recital and puzzled to comprehend how such very precise information was obtained. The executioners of Ravaillac and Damien might have taken a lesson in cruelty from the servants of King Ferdinand, if the account be true. There is no means of testing the statement. It may be denied by the authorities, or it may be left to be believed, with a view of striking terror into the other conspirators, who Milano declared were ready to avenge him. But, if true, it will be utterly impossible for any human being to feel the slightest regret at anything that can happen to a Monarch capable of permitting such execrable barbarity. King Bomba seems to sit not so much on a volcano as among a group of mines. One after the other blows up, to the astonishment and terror of Naples. First a magazine goes off, next a first-class frigate is blown to pieces, and then a steam-engine boiler explodes. "The second bill of exchange," said the King, as the roar of the frigate-explosion broke forth. The Sovereign would appear to be aware of his liabilities, and yet he obstinately refuses to call his creditors together.

Our law courts are in full business. The bullion robbery case, to be succeeded by that of Redpath, is the most prominent; but the singular evidence had been read so carefully on the police investigation that the proceedings lack much of the charm of novelty. The question to which we adverted some time back, in mentioning the case of *Swynfen v. Swynfen*—namely, the liability of a client to be bound by the agreement of counsel—has come on again, upon appeal; and it has been very rationally decided that one engages a barrister for fighting, not for negotiation. The bargain made by Sir F. Thesiger for Mrs. Swynfen has therefore been rescinded. It was said that the accomplished advocate, whose skill no one ever doubted, made the bargain in question because he suddenly saw a weak point in his case, which had been missed up to that time, and on which he feared his antagonist might dart. We presume that a new trial will show whether this was a mere suggestion or a fact. The stakes are worth a fight.

Another point has been raised in a court of law of an inferior order. In a case at Newcastle the evidence of one of the parties was refused, not, so far as appears by the report, because he would not press his lips to a printed volume, but because he admitted his disbelief that his welfare in a future state would be at all interfered with by anything he might say after taking the oath. On this ground he was denied the benefit of resort to the tribunal. Now, it is utterly needless for us to say that we entertain for a man who could make this statement simply the compassion which we are all taught to feel for the ignorant. The non-comprehension of the Christian doctrine of a future state implies an imperfectly-instructed mind, or an imperfectly-developed intellect. When Shelley chose to inscribe himself, in Greek, in a book kept for travellers, as "an Atheist," some traveller who followed him added, in Greek also, "and a fool." And, in the sense in which we have placed the matter, the commentator was justified in using the epithet. In the present case the parties—both plaintiff and defendant are stated to be in the same mental muddle—are not Shelleys, but probably a couple of specimens of a type common enough among the lower class, that of the half-educated and wholly-conceived sceptic. But we are not so clear that the law should refuse its aid to such persons. Are they to be debarred from justice because they are silly? The idiot and the madman pleads by his next friend, or "committee"—surely the foolish sceptic ought not to be simply kicked out of court, under fire of abuse from an attorney. A larger question is involved, of course, but large questions are never settled by legislation—small ones have a chance, as small men can settle them.

As if we had not enough of law, the lawyers themselves are falling out. The old feud between the country and the metropolitan attorney has burst out afresh; and the *Law Times* and the *Legal Observer*—representatives of the two factions—are opening fire in earnest. It may be as well that the public should comprehend a little about this, and the question is plain enough. The tendency of the proposed reforms in the conveyancing system will be much to the detriment of the country solicitor, much of whose business is conveying. In itself this might not appear a matter for many tears on the part of the nation. But it is to be remarked that the respectable country solicitor is that which we can hardly affirm the majority of the legal profession to be—namely, a valuable and useful member of society. He lives in a small community whose eye is upon him, he is half a country gentleman, and his neighbours look to him, not for professional advice only, but for friendly counsel, and they get it. As an arbitrator he is incessantly preventing actions and suits; and, moreover, he is seldom too highly paid. Now, a change which should prevent this class of men from obtaining an honourable existence would be detrimental to the interests of society; and the questionable advantage of enabling some London solicitors to keep

carriages instead of broughams, and to buy country villas instead of hiring mansions at Ramsgate and Boulogne, would scarcely be an equivalent. This is the view of a question which has most bearing upon the general interests of the public—that conveyancing is far too expensive is a fact that there is no denying. The country attorneys have a strong hold upon the House of Commons, for good reasons, and will fight out their battle we doubt not.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, VICTORIA PARK.—The annual meeting of the governors of this institution was held on Tuesday, at the London Tavern; Joseph Gurney Barclay, Esq., in the chair. The report of the committee, which was then adopted, showed that during the past year the number of out-patients had been 5687, or 953 more than the previous year; and there had been an average attendance of 812 each week. The number of in-patients had been 242; and these had been retained on an average for a period of rather more than six weeks. The receipts had amounted to £5399 16s.; and the expenditure to £5812 15s. 11d.; and the liabilities had been further reduced to £7586 12s. ed. Arrangements have been made with a kindred charity—the Western Institution—by which patients may in future be sent to Torquay.

STOCK EXCHANGE.—The committee of the Stock Exchange has adopted the following resolution, with the view of checking the laxity shown by some members of that establishment in undertaking speculative transactions for clerks, of the nature recently illustrated in the instances of Redpath, Robson, and others:—"The committee particularly caution members of the Stock Exchange against transacting speculative business for clerks in public or private establishments without the knowledge of their employers. Members disregarding this caution are liable to be dealt with in such a manner as the committee may deem advisable."

THE LINENDRAPERS', SILKMERCERS', LACEMEN'S, HABERDASHERS', AND HOSIERS' INSTITUTION.—The twenty-fifth annual ball in aid of the funds of this institution was held on Tuesday night, at Willis's Rooms, and the stewards had the gratification to find that their calls upon the several trades were responded to by the most numerous and one of the best assemblages of the season. Nearly 500 persons expressed their best wishes for the prosperity of this useful society.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of this society was held on Wednesday last; Mr. B. B. Cabbell in the chair. It appeared from a report of the proceedings of the society during the past year—that—in addition to bronze medals, testimonials, and pecuniary rewards—thirteen silver medals were awarded by the society to persons who had risked their lives to save others from being drowned. Last year 201,000 persons bathed in the Serpentine River, and forty-seven casualties (including attempted suicides) had occurred, of which number four proved fatal. During the skating season forty persons had been rescued by the society's ice-men in the parks and Kensington-gardens, and no fatal accident had occurred. The number of skaters and sliders was estimated at upwards of 40,000.

A PIECE OF PLATE and purse of gold have been presented to the Rev. Albert Alston, M.A., on his resignation of the Curacy of St. George's, Hanover-square. Mr. Alston, who is now Chaplain to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, was Curate of St. George's for nine years, and during that time was very active and popular amongst the more humble class of his parishioners, a considerable number of whom subscribed to the testimonial fund.

MEETING OF UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN.—A meeting of unemployed workmen, numbering between 800 and 1000, was held on Monday, in Smithfield, for the purpose of concerting measures to relieve the distress at present prevalent among workmen. The majority of the meeting appeared to consist of masons, bricklayers, coach-builders, carpenters, and labourers. Pierce, a journeyman carpenter, acted as chairman. In a speech of great moderation he stated that it was computed that at least one-fourth of the workmen of the metropolis had, for some time, been out of employment. He disowned any connection with Chartists, and said he wished to obtain the desired end by legal means. Resolutions were carried recommending that application should be made to the Government to commence an extensive system of emigration, and to remove all taxes on consumable articles. The proceedings were of a very quiet character.

FIRE AT RICHMOND.—The old mansion at Richmond-green known as Hope House, and devoted for several years to a school for the education of daughters of naval officers, was destroyed by fire early on Sunday morning. The house having recently been purchased by the promoters of the new Cavalry College, a number of workmen had been actively employed, in order that it might be opened for business on the 1st of February. The fire was discovered about half-past five in the morning, but, as little water could be obtained for nearly two hours, no portion of the mansion could be saved, and when additional engines arrived the exertions of the firemen were almost useless. It is supposed that the fire must have occurred from the carelessness of the workmen in leaving charcoal fires burning without any person to attend them. The mansion and premises were insured in the Sun and Phoenix Fire Offices.

THE LONDON COAL TRADE.—The quantity of coals imported into London by sea, in 1856, amounted to 3,119,884 tons; 1855, 3,016,868 tons; increase last year, 103,016 tons. By railway and canal, in 1856, 1,271,790 tons; 1855, 1,161,056; increase, 110,614 tons. The import of sea-borne coal into London in December, 1856, exceeded that of the corresponding period of 1855 by 107,000.

THE FRAUDS ON THE CITY BANKS.—Saward and Anderson, charged with the commission of a number of forgeries, were again brought before the Lord Mayor, on Wednesday last, for further examination. A number of witnesses were examined for the prosecution, whose evidence all went to prove the charges brought against them, of which we gave a statement last week. The prisoners were remanded till next Wednesday.

CAB ACCIDENT TO TWO LADIES—PROBABLE LOSS OF LIFE.—A frightful occurrence took place near Hyde-park-corner, Piccadilly, at a late hour on Tuesday night. Miss Sparks and Miss Fulbrow, of Hammersmith, got into a cab, the driver of which was drunk. He drove the horse up the bank by the side of the road and upset the cab, which was broken to pieces. The ladies, who were seriously injured, were conveyed to St. George's Hospital. Miss Sparks's injuries were so severe as to render her recovery doubtful.

ALLEGED FORGERIES BY A STOCK AND SHARE BROKER.—An adjudication in bankruptcy against a Mr. White, who carried on business as a stock and share broker, in Cushing-court, Broad-street, was lately made: and since then several officers of the detective force have been engaged in endeavouring to effect his capture, as there appears to be little doubt that he has obtained a large sum of money—said to be £15,000—on certificates and shares in the following companies:—The Peel River, the Oriental Gas, the Quartz Rock Mariposa Gold Mining, the British Australian Gold Mining, the Liberty Mining (United States), and the Mexican South American. The furniture of the bankrupt at his house at Herne-hill has been seized, together with some houses at Notting-hill. It is supposed the bankrupt has gone to Australia, but that he has not taken much cash with him. He was a young man, and considered very respectably connected. He was not a member of the Stock Exchange.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week that ended on Saturday, the deaths of 1135 persons—viz., 577 males and 558 females—were registered. The average number of deaths in the ten weeks corresponding with last week of the years 1847-56 was 1251; but, as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, the average must be raised proportionally to the increase for the purpose of comparison, and in this case it will become 1376. The number of deaths recorded last week is less by 241 than would have been returned if the average rate of mortality had prevailed. Last week the births of 846 boys and 817 girls, in all 1663 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1517.

Monday last being the first day of Hilary Term, the Lord Chancellor entertained the Judges and Queen's Counsel at breakfast. Their Lordships afterwards proceeded to Westminster Hall and Lincoln's Inn, to open their respective courts.

Orders have been given by which the names of the streets in all the towns of Spain, which were changed in consequence of the events of 1854, are to be restored.

It is now definitely arranged by the European and Australian Company to run lines of steamers from Ceylon to Madras, Calcutta, and China, in connection with their Australian mail line.

M. Munchs, Secretary to the Mayoralty of Aix-la-Chapelle, has disappeared, and carried off nearly 16,000 rix dollars belonging to the town treasury.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company have given their assent to the construction of the submarine telegraph along the Persian Gulf.

M. Raphael Felix, brother to Mdlle. Rachel, now takes the principal part in the "Fils de la Nuit," at the Forte St. Martin, vice M. Fechter, fatigued by many months' repetition of the same character, and who has to study a new part.

Our diplomatic service in the last year, ended March, cost the country, £381,268.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE POULTRY SHOW.

The Crystal Palace Poultry Show has been a success; was well arranged, and well supported by the public, considering the time of the year, and the difficulty of getting to the Palace.

Every class, from the highest to the humblest, takes an interest in the poultry-yard; the natural love of beauty and of pets combines with the equally natural love of eggs, pancakes, and omelettes, roast fowls, turkeys, geese (fed à la Cobbett), ducks (roast and boiled), and pea-fowl to make up for pheasants when out of season. The admirers of the beautiful in plumage must have been satisfied with the Crystal Palace Show—one more instance of the manner in which the English, who do not understand or appreciate many Continental elegances and artistic beauties, do appreciate and excel in cultivating the beauties of nature. If our furniture and our bonnets be frightful, we do manage to produce gardens and parks, flowers and trees, horses, dogs, and poultry, cattle, and sheep in perfection.

The total entry of poultry, exclusive of turkeys, ducks, geese, &c., was upwards of 900. Two-thirds of these entries consisted of a cock and two hens; therefore there were somewhere about 2000 choice fowls exhibited—a great exhibition, but less remarkable for the numbers than for the general average of merit.

The arrangement of prizes was that now universally accepted for winter shows. That is to say—first, three prizes for a cock and two hens over one year old; second, three prizes for a cock and two pullets hatched the same year; and third, one prize for the best cock of any age, of any variety of breed, without regard to colour. We have no space to give all the prizes, which fill thirteen octavo pages, so must be content with passing notes. In Spanish there were seventy-three pens and twenty-one single cocks entered—a very fine display of clean, lively birds, the cocks almost blind from excess of the white lobe which distinguishes this bird from the black game-fowl. In the young class, pronounced by the judges unusually good, Miss Rake won the first prize with one pen. The prize for the best cock went to Master M'Gregor Rake, who was so determined not to sell his single entry that he put a price of £200 upon him. The Dorkings were surprising to those who have not watched the progress of these birds since shows began: they rival the Cochins in size and excel them in symmetry. The winner of the first and second prize for old birds, Mr. Botham, of Slough, has, we hear, a hen weighing 10 lb. 7 oz. Dorkings are an aristocratic fancy; we observe among the prize winners and "commended" Lady Eleanor Cathcart and Miss Florence Cathcart, Lady Margaret Macdonald, Lady Dacre, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and two clergymen. Throughout the exhibition the clergy are very successful. Mr. Fisher Hobbes, of Essex agricultural notoriety, wins the first prize for a grey Dorking cock, which he determines not to sell, as he puts £100 on him. There were upwards of 360 Dorkings shown.

The Cochins were divided into three colours, with two classes to each, and a class for cocks—in all about 320 birds; very fine on an average, but nothing new about this most hardy, prolific, and early-to-cook breed, which is the best possible cross for a barn-fowl. The Rev. G. Hodgson, of North Petherton, near Bridgewater, obtained two first and one third prize for Cochins; as well as a first and second and a "commended" for Dorkings—none being for sale.

Next came the handsomest and least profitable birds of all—the game, with four divisions according to colour—viz., "white and piles," "black-breasted and red," "black-and-brassy winged," and "duck-winged, with greys and blue;" about 500 specimens, all beautiful in colour and form. Here again the Rev. T. E. Abraham, of Bickerstaffe, Ormskirk, wins a first and second prize with birds of the once-celebrated Earl of Derby's breed; while Baron Rothschild was second to Mr. Sewell with a black-breasted red cock—two splendid birds.

The Polish were divided into black with white crests, golden, and silver. They are quite a fancy fowl; very good layers, but very difficult to keep up to a fair standard of excellence. There is a tradition that white Poles with black crests once existed, but they do not seem to be revived by the prize system. The next breed to the Poles—the Malays—puzzle us much. What is their merit? They are all legs and neck. They are ugly; they are not good layers; are very inferior for the table, and not to be compared with Cochins, which they most resemble, even for weight. They are all offal, with no breast. Yet the class of Malay cocks were distinguished by the judges as "one of the best classes yet seen." In the class "for any other distinct breed" Mr. E. Coleridge, of Eton, Windsor, also a winner of two first and a second prize for Polish gold and Polish silver fowl, carried off the first prize for white Polish fowl—price £100; Mr. Dawson, of Hopton Merfield, Yorkshire, a second prize for Suitans; while commendation was awarded to several pens of China silk fowl, which, with white feathers and black skin and bones, can only be admired as hideous curiosities or rarities, as they are neither pretty nor useful. Bantams were shown in great force in five colours: gold-laced, silver-laced, white, black, and in any variety. They are too well known to need description.

There were only eighteen entries of Geese—the first prize for white going to Mr. Beavington, of Hounslow, Emden pen; and the first prize for grey and mottled to Mr. Davis, of Hounslow, pen of Toulouse, magnificent birds—the gander weighing twenty-three pounds—price £21.

The white Aylesbury Ducks were finer than many geese. The first prize pen, from Mr. Ford, Ide, near Exeter, was wonderful; price £100—that is to say, not for sale at any price. The second prize was from Aylesbury, and the third from Reigate. The judges consider this an excellent class. The sober and succulent Rouens were equally distinguished for size, and a very good class. The judges give the same praise to the class for ducks of "any variety," where the Rev. T. B. Pryor, of Stevenage, Herts, took the first prize with his pen of black East Indian; and Mr. Crane, of Tolpuddle, Dorset, the second with his pretty white call ducks, which the Crystal Palace manager would do well to purchase for the lake. The Hon. Miss Dillon, of Ditchley Park, took a third prize with her black Buenos Ayres, which are, we believe, the same as those called East Indian. We did not see any black or rather bronze-coloured ducks so elegant as those kept at the old decoy near Aylsby, in Lincolnshire. There they are bred down to be not much larger than a teal. They fly like wild ducks, and are most delicious eating—far superior to the large breeds.

The Turkey show was small. The Rev. Thomas Fellows, of Beighton Rectory, Norfolk, won a first prize for his Cambridgeshire breed, and a second prize for his wild American breed. These wild Americans give hardness and flavour, but diminished size. French turkeys are a desirable importation for crossing our old breeds. A first, second, and third prize in turkeys of the Cambridge breed were won by Mr. Fairlie, of Cheveley Park, Newmarket.

In Pigeons we cannot pretend to be very learned: we know that it was a very beautiful exhibition, of which the judges speak as "very good and interesting," "very superior." One prize—a plum in this instance we may call it—for a yellow hen pouter, was gained by the friend of our youth, and every one's youth, Master J. (of course it is "Jack") Horner, of Hull. Mr. Harrison Weir wins not less than five prizes, beside two commendations, for a black and for a yellow short-faced baldhead, valued by him at £50 each, a black jacobin, and for two turbits.

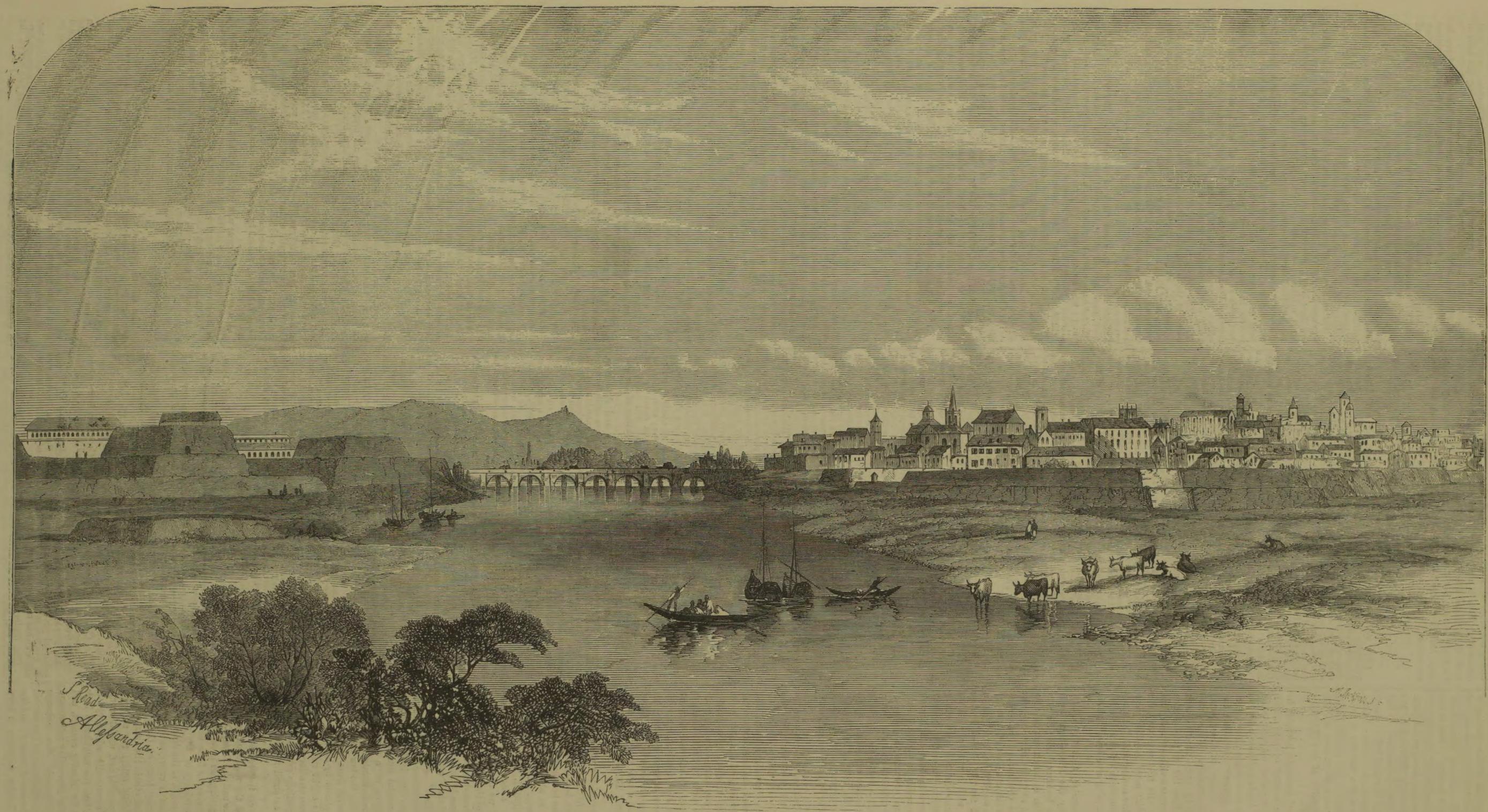
A very good catalogue was issued, with an index of the names of the exhibitors, and a list of the prize winners. This prize list would be improved by having the particulars of each class repeated.

We understand that this exhibition is to be annual—a very sensible determination on the part of the Crystal Palace directors; but, considering the time of the year, and the number of workpeople interested in poultry, it would probably pay to have the last day at 1s., including the railway fare.

The official journal of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg of Saturday publishes the budget of receipts and expenses for the year 1857. The King of Holland, as Grand Duke, has decreed the budget, without the co-operation of the Chambers, but it is in perfect conformity with the one they voted last year.

A conference relative to the Sound dues was held in Copenhagen on the 8th inst.; it appears certain that the dues will be suppressed on the reopening of navigation, that is in April next. It remains to be decided whether the sums to be paid by the various Powers to Denmark shall be given in one payment or in several.

A zoological garden is about to be established in Rotterdam, and a commission has been formed to raise the necessary funds and purchase the ground for the enterprise. The garden will be laid out in the neighbourhood of the Cruiskade Railway.



FORT AND TOWN OF ALESSANDRIA

SARDINIA.—THE FORTRESS OF ALESSANDRIA.

THE speech of the King of Sardinia at the opening of Parliament, on the 7th inst., makes no express mention of the defensive works now going forward at Alessandria; but there can be no doubt as to the firm determination of Victor Emmanuel on that as well as on every other point which relates to the independence of Sardinia:—"The Government, relying upon the national sentiment which prevails, will pursue with constancy the same policy in which it has assumed the initiative."

As regards the fortress of Alessandria—represented in the illustration above—a *Turin* journal gives the following particulars relating to the new fortifications now in course of erection:—

The spot where Alessandria now stands was occupied in 1168 by a small town called Rovereto, situated near the two rivers Tanaro and Bormida. During the wars of the Guelphs and Ghibellines its strong position attracted the attention

of the latter, who surrounded it in 1169 with a mud wall, and called it Alessandria. From the circumstance that straw was mixed with mud, to give it sufficient firmness, the people gave it the name of Alessandria della Paglia, which it retains to this day. In 1174 Frederic Barbarossa besieged it with a formidable army, but was obliged to raise the siege after it had lasted seven months. It was subsequently besieged, and changed hands several times. In 1238 the Emperor Frederic II. took and sacked it. In 1278 the Marquis of Montferrat, governor of the Milanese, took possession of it, and surrounded it with brick walls and towers. In 1644 the Spanish commandant, Conde de Sirvela, turned the waters of the Bormida into the moat to increase its strength, and in the following year the fortress received eight ravelins, also surrounded with wet ditches. The present citadel was commenced in 1736, and completed in 1745. On the 12th of October of the same year Alessandria capitulated, and was occupied by the Spanish troops under the orders of the Marquis of Caravaca; this was the last time it was taken after a siege. In 1795 the citadel was given up to the French; it was blockaded by the Russians in 1799, and capitulated on the 1st of Thermidor of that year. It was again taken possession of by the French in 1800, after the

memorable battle of Marengo. Generals Marescat and Chasseloup refortified it at a cost of 30,000,000 francs, and rendered it one of the strongest fortresses in Europe; but after the fall of the first Empire the Austrians destroyed the whole of the works. The plan which is now to be carried out consists of a bastioned body and four detached forts, one situated on the Bormida, a second on the Tanaro, and the other two to the east and south-east of the place. This fortress, with the aid of Casale on one side and Genoa on the other, will enable a body of from 20,000 to 25,000 men to keep a much larger army in check for many months, until the arrival of succour from other quarters.

The following portion of the Royal Speech will be read with interest by the friends of freedom in Italy:—

Sardinia issued from the Congress with the reputation of political prudence and civil courage. For the first time in a European Congress, the interests of Italy were defended by an Italian Power (Loud cheers), and it was most evidently demonstrated for the universal good, the necessity of improving its condition (Renewed

and prolonged cheers). My Government, secured of your assistance and strengthened by the national feeling, which never ceases to manifest itself with great and spontaneous demonstrations, will constantly persevere in the policy which we have initiated (Cheers). The return of peace, more favourable harvests, the progressive development of the national wealth, having ameliorated the condition of the public treasury, you will discuss, for the first time, a budget in which the ordinary expenses and the income are perfectly equal (Cheers). Less preoccupied by financial matters, you can, gentlemen, in the present session, complete the reforms of the provincial administrations, of the judicial organisation of the instructors, as well as of other branches of the public service on which you have already been on other occasions called to deliberate. Signori Senatori, Signori Deputati, the severe trials that with the aid of Providence we have overcome, the great works completed in the midst of extraordinary financial difficulties, the part which we have taken in European policy, make clear the efficiency and the goodness of the institutions which our magnanimous father granted to his people (Enthusiastic cheers). Rendered more solid by time, made fruitful by the intimate union of the throne with the nation they assure to our country a future of prosperity and glory.

SKETCHES FROM NAPLES



THE ISLAND OF NISIDA.

NISIDA.

WHOEVER has travelled from Naples to Pozzuoli will recognise the Island of Nisida, the subject of our Sketch. Much and pleasantly associated with classic and mediæval history, it is far from being agreeably connected with the history of modern times. It was once the property of Lucullus, who connected it by a bridge thrown over arches and piles with the adjoining rock of the Lazaretto, which is close to his villa at Posillipo, now called the School of Virgil. Here, too, Cicero had an interview with Brutus, who was then on a visit to the son of Lucullus, or, at all events, sojourning in his house. Here, too, the Queen Johanna resided for some time, and from the towers then standing on the heights repulsed the Duke of Guise. On this site, in more modern times, has been erected an "Ergastolo"—a building which, by law, must be upon an island, and to which are confined those

who are condemned to imprisonment for life. This place is reserved in an especial manner for priests, who, according to a convention concluded between Gregory XVI. and the Government of the Two Sicilies in 1834, must be confined in separate prisons. Between Nisida and the Point of Posillipo is the rock of which we have already spoken. The Duke of Alba, under Philip IV. of Spain, built a Lazaretto upon it in 1624, and, moreover, founded a little port, by erecting a mole, which defended it from the west. The most recent public work of any consequence here was effected by the counsel and under the superintendence of the engineer Giuliano de Fazio. In 1834, upon the ancient Roman piles, he constructed the Mole, with approaches; thus enlarging the port, and connecting the Lazaretto with the island. At the extremity is a revolving light. Spite of its vines, and its olives, its figs, its mushrooms, and its asparagus, all so celebrated and so dear

to the gourmand, it is a melancholy place to look upon. That large whitewashed building on the top strikes even the stranger as a suspicious-looking spot, a place of unknown suffering and woe; whilst the Neapolitan casts a hurried glance at it, and exclaims, "Ecco l'Ergastolo!" The very name has something harsh and menacing how much more so is the reality? The Lazaretto is noted as one of the worst in the Mediterranean; and many, to avoid the rude accommodation, the impositions, and extortions practised there, have foregone their intention of visiting "Il pezzo di cielo caduto in terra," rather than encounter the horrors of that *sanitary* prison-house. How sad and silent the place looks! The opposite shore is almost abandoned a single house stands there to offer hay to a horse and doubtful refreshment to a Christian; while a solitary mariner sleeps in his berth on the borders of the sea, waiting, like old Charon, for some unhappy fare.



CASTLE OF ISCHIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ISCHIA.

ONE of the most interesting excursions to be enjoyed in the vicinity of Naples is that to Ischia, the largest island in the famed Bay. It is separated from Procida by a channel two English miles in breadth. The shape of Ischia is an irregular ellipse, the circumference of which is rather more than twenty miles, measuring from headland to headland, exclusive of the sinuosities of the coast. Monte Epomeo, the highest point, is 2574 feet above the level of the sea. On the north-east shore is the Castle, which is distant twenty miles from the Mole of Naples.

Before Vesuvius resumed its activity in the reign of Titus, Ischia was the principal scene of volcanic action, and, in fact, the safety-valve for the whole of Southern Italy. Monte Epomeo (already mentioned), the Epos of the Greeks, the Epopoeia of the Latin poets, which rises grandly near the centre of the island, "like an Etna in miniature," evidently formed part of the wall of a great crater, of which the other remains are seen at various places on the south side. On the north and west the island slopes gradually down to the sea and terminates in a beach; while on the south and east it plunges into the sea in abrupt and lofty precipices. Currents of lava and scoriae, which have flowed from the lateral craters of Epomeo, may be traced in many parts of the surface of the island; and in some places vast blocks of trachyte, which have probably been ejected during the eruptions of the larger craters, may be seen protruding through the tufa.

The advanced position of Ischia, commanding the western entrance to the Bay of Naples, has made it an important *point d'appui* for a blockading force; hence it has been the scene of many a fierce and sanguinary struggle during the dynastic wars and revolutions of the kingdom.

The baths of Ischia have enjoyed high reputation from the earliest period of the Greek colonisation of the island. No spot of the same extent in the known world contains such a number of hot mineral waters; and so rich is the island in springs, that many valuable waters, which would make the fortune of any town in continental Europe, are here allowed to run waste, or are used for domestic purposes. They contain large quantities of the muriates, sulphates, and carbonates of soda, combined with the salts of magnesia, of lime, and occasionally of potash, with a considerable volume of free carbonic acid gas.

Bishop Berkeley frequently declared that one of the happiest summers he ever enjoyed was passed in Ischia. This was in 1717; and one of his delightful letters, written probably to Pope, describes the natural beauties of the island in language which is still as applicable as it was a century and a half ago:—

The island is an *epitome of the whole earth*, containing within the compass of eighteen miles a wonderful variety of hills, vales, rugged rocks, fruitful plains, and barren mountains, all thrown together in a most romantic confusion. The air is, in the hottest season, constantly refreshed by cool breezes from the sea; the vales produce excellent wheat and Indian corn, but are mostly covered with vineyards interspersed with fruit-trees. * * * * The hills are for the greater part covered to the top with vines, some with chestnut-groves and others with thickets of myrtle and lentisks. The fields on the northern side are divided by hedge-rows of myrtle. Several fountains and rivulets add to the beauty of the landscape, which is likewise set off by the variety of some barren spots and naked rocks.

The Bishop then describes Epomeo:—

Its lower parts are adorned with vines and other fruits; the middle affords pasture to flocks of goats and sheep; and the top is a sandy-pointed rock, from which you have the finest prospect in the world, surveying at one view, besides several pleasant islands lying at your feet, a tract of Italy about 300 miles in length, from the promontory of Antium to the Cape of Palinurus, the greater part of which hath been sung by Homer and Virgil, as making a considerable part of the travels and adventures of their two heroes.

DOD'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, KNIGHTAGE, &c.—(Whittaker and Co.)—The new edition of this highly-accredited volume has just appeared with so many novel features as to render it almost a new work from beginning to end, in consequence of the revision requisite from the close of the war having been attended by so large an addition to the Order of the Bath, so many creations of other titles, and such extensive promotions in the Army and Navy. Again, the casualties and deaths by disease in the course of the same conflict, together with the consequent accession to titles, have led to very many changes; the number of persons of British title who have been decorated not only with medals and clasps, but with the various grades of the French Legion of Honour, the Turkish Order of the Medjidie, the Sardinian Order of Savoy, of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, &c., have largely added to the contents of the volume; the services of our French allies have also been commemorated by the addition of upwards of a hundred foreign names to the Order of the Bath; and several ladies have been authorised by the Queen to assume the rank which they would have been entitled to if their husbands had not fallen in the Russian war, but had survived to receive the honours designed for them—these have contributed to enlarge this new edition. Civil services and political changes have also led to Knighthoods, Baronetcies, and additions to the Privy Council; and several new Bishops have been consecrated. These and other changes have been diligently attended to by the editor and his suggestive correspondents. The result is a work alike recommended by its enlarged contents and great facility of reference, which are prime requisites in an office-book like the present.

DOD'S "PARLIAMENTARY COMPANION FOR 1857."—Twenty-fifth year.—(Whittaker and Co.)—This useful compendium has been thoroughly revised to the time of publication; which had become necessary by the great changes which have occurred since the last general election—more than one hundred and forty new members having since that time been returned, and a corresponding number having relinquished their seats, or died. In addition to minor alterations are the promotions in the Army, which have occurred both among Peers and Commoners. The record of the politics of each member has been carefully made; and the like painstaking zeal is shown in their pledges and opinions respecting great questions of the day; as Vote by Ballot, the Income-tax, Church Rates, the Admission of Jews to Parliament, National Education, &c.

THE OUTBREAK at VALENCIA.—The Madrid journals of the 4th contain some details of the outbreak at Valencia already alluded to. On the 31st ult. placards were stuck up at the gates of the town, and in different streets, prohibiting all persons from offering provisions for sale under pain of death, or at least of having their shops sacked. The authorities took some measures, but none of the people who were accustomed to attend the markets presented themselves; some persons, however, who had laid in stores of provisions, took them to market in the hope of gaining a high price for them, but a body of workmen rushed on them, drove them away, and scattered their provisions in all directions. The civil authorities came up and entreated the mob to disperse, but they refused, and clamorously demanded bread and money. Finding that they persisted in their refusal, and that their numbers increased and they became more menacing every moment, the authorities declared the city in a state of siege. On this the mob dispersed, and the rest of the day passed off quietly; but it was feared that next day there would be a disturbance.

HOW SAWARD CAME TO BE A BARRISTER.—The *Law Times* says:—The question is properly asked, How did "Jem Saward," who figures in the "Great City Forgeries," get to the Bar? In the *Law List* he is described as "James Townsend Saward, Esq., of the Inner Temple and the Home Circuit." The date of his call is the 28th of November, 1840. He has been for a long time the associate of thieves. Who is he? By what two barristers was he proposed? By whom of the benchers approved? For without this preliminary certificate of character admission of a student is impracticable. The Inner Temple boasts of a sort of preliminary classical examination. Was "Jem Saward" subjected to this? These are questions which the Society has a right to ask, and the proposers might properly be called upon to state what was their knowledge of him.

THE "SUBLIME PORTE."—A curious anecdote is told of the conduct of the Turkish Plenipotentiary in the recent Conferences. Hitherto it has been supposed that to speak of the Turkish empire as the "Sublime Porte" was to use a most respectful locution, and one quite in conformity with the figurative style which is in favour in the East. But on two different occasions, when this expression occurred on reading over the protocol, Mehmet Djemil Bey protested, and said that the "Sublime Porte" was only a house, and that his positive instructions were that the phrase "his Highness the Sultan" should be substituted for it. It was only on the representation of Count Walewski that such a change would necessitate the entire redrawing of the protocol that his Turkish Excellency withdrew his objection. No doubt, however, attention to the desires of Turkey upon this point, now that they are known, will be paid on future occasions.—*Letter from Paris.*

THE FRENCH ASSASSIN.—The assassin Vergès has been transferred from Mazas to the Conciergerie, to await his trial. He is *au secret*, and watched night and day, to prevent him from committing suicide. On being asked whether he had chosen an advocate to defend him, he replied that he did not want one, and was prepared to defend himself. It is even reported that he threatened to make disclosures which would necessarily lead to his pardon. The French law does not allow a man to be tried for his life without the aid of counsel, and when a prisoner refuses to name one the Court appoints *ex officio* an advocate to defend him. In the present case the President has selected M. Nogent-Saint Laurents. It is expected that the trial will commence on the 17th inst., and that M. le Premier President Delangle will preside.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 18.—2nd Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 19.—Copernicus born, 1473. Earl of Surrey beheaded, 1547.
TUESDAY, 20.—American Independence acknowledged, 1783.
WEDNESDAY, 21.—Louis XVI. guillotined, 1793.
THURSDAY, 22.—Lord Byron born, 1788.
FRIDAY, 23.—William Pitt died, 1806. Duke of Kent died, 1820.
SATURDAY, 24.—Frederick the Great born, 1712.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 24, 1857.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M	A	M	A	M	A	M
h	m	h	m	h	m	h
7	25	7	45	8	12	8
5		4	5	9	35	20
				10	30	50
				11	10	55
				11	15	55
					20	55
					20	55
					20	55
					20	55
					20	55
					20	55

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th, 1857.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday, Jan. 19, and during the Week, for six nights only, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL (performed on Thursday last at Windsor Castle). Sir Peter Teazle, Mr. Chippendale; Sir Benjamin Buckle, Mr. Buckstone; Crabtree, Mr. Compton; and Charles Surface, Mr. Murdoch; Lady Teazle, Miss Reynolds; Lady Sneerwell, Mrs. Poynier; Mrs. Candour, Miss Talbot. After which the Pantomime of the BABES in the WOOD. A Morning Performance of the Pantomime on Thursday next, Jan. 22, and every Thursday.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Saturday, the CORSICAN BROTHERS. The Pantomime every Evening. Mendelssohn's celebrated Overture to "Midsummer Night's Dream" will commence five minutes before 7.

A DELPHI THEATRE.—The PANTOMIME every Night, Second week of A NIGHT AT NOTTING-HILL—MONDAY and during the week, DOMESTIC ECONOMY, Mr. Wright. A NIGHT AT NOTTING-HILL, Messrs. Wright and Paul Bedford. MOTHER SHIRTON; or, Harlequin Knight of Love. Harlequin and Columbine, à la Watteau, Mademoiselle Celeste and Miss Wyndham.

A STLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Monday, Jan. 19, the Last Week of RICHARD III., with Mr. W. Cooke's Equestrian Illustrations, Richard, Mr. James Holloway (the 10th night); after which the Equestrian SCENES in the CIRCLE. To conclude with the highly-successful Equestrian Comic Pantomime, called PAUL PRY ON HORSEBACK; or, HARLEQUIN AND THE MAGIC HORSESHOE—A MORNING PERFORMANCE on SATURDAYS at Two o'clock. Commence each evening at a quarter before Seven.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—Proprietor, MR. JOHN DOUGLASS.—The GREAT PANTOMIME of the SEASON is the "Standard," which will commence the Performance every Evening. On SATURDAY next the original GENERAL TOM THUMB will appear for one night only. Morning Performance of the Pantomime every Monday, at Half-past Twelve.

ROYAL COLOSSEUM, Regent's-park and Albany-street.—(Colosseum of Science and Art Company.)—Now OPEN DAILY, at Twelve and Seven. Panoramas, Concerts, Glees, Stalactite Caverns, Conservatories, Aviaries, Fountains, Swiss Scenery, Cascades, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—The CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS this year are on the most liberal and extensive scale. New Lecture by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on "Optical Illusions," with very curious experiments, every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Three and Eight. Miniature Juvenile Model Theatre, by Mr. Freeman, who will exhibit the Ghost Scene of the "Corsican Brothers," daily. Mr. Logrenia's astonishing Conjuring Tricks and Comic Delusions. Entire new series of Fourth and Last Great Distribution of thousands of beautiful ornaments and Mappin's Pocket-knives from the Giant Christmas Tree next Thursday (Morning and Evening), 22nd January. Second and most costly series of Dissolving Views, Illustrating Blue Beard, with humorous and original description by Leicester Buckingham, Esq., daily a Four and Nine. Admission to the whole, 1s.; children and schools, half-price.

M. R. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, BADEN, UP THE RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Stalls can be secured at the Box-office, EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, every day, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.

HENRY RUSSELL will give his Entertainment, entitled THE FAR WEST; or, Every-day Life in America—the Second Part, entitled NUGGETS; at the Lecture-hall, Greenwich, Wednesday, Jan. 21st; Lecture-hall, Woolwich, Thursday; Institution, Deptford, Friday; Lecture-hall, Carter-street, Walworth, Monday, Jan. 26th; Myddleton Hall, Islington, Tuesday; King's Arms, Kensington, Wednesday; Institution, Edwards-street, Portman-square, Thursday; Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood, Friday. Mr. Russell will accompany himself on Collard and Collard's magnificent Bi-chord Pianoforte.—Doors open at half-past Seven; commence at Eight.

MISS P. HORTON'S POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT at the GALLERY of ILLUSTRATIONS, 14, Regent-street.—Mr. and Mrs. T. GERMAN REED (late Miss P. Horton) give their ILLUSTRATIONS (with an entirely new part) EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock. A MORNING PERFORMANCE every Saturday at Three o'clock. Admission 2s. and Stalls, 3s. May be secured at the Gallery, from Eleven till Four; and at Cramer, Beale, and Co.'s, 201, Regent-street.

SALLE VOUSDEN, 315, Oxford-street (ten doors from the Regent-circus).—VALENTINE VOUSDEN, the great Polynesian Minstrel, in his Original Entertainment, the UNITY OF NATIONS, every evening (Saturday excepted), at 8 o'clock.—Seats, 3s., 2s., and 1s., may be secured at Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street.—Day Performance on Saturday, at 3 o'clock.

M. R. W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO of ODDITIES, with New Costumes and various novelties, Vocal and Characteristic, EVERY EVENING (Saturday excepted), at Eight. A Morning Performance every Saturday at Three o'clock. Private Boxes and Stalls may be secured without extra charge, at the Box-office.—Polygraphic Hall, King-William-street, Charing-cross. The Hall has been entirely redecorated.

THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE, in their Original Entertainment, entitled SKETCHES from NATURE, will appear at STOCKTON, Jan. 19th; RIFON, 20th; OTLEY, 21st; SHEFFIELD, 22nd and 23rd.

CANTERBURY HALL, Westminster-road.—OPEN EVERY EVENING.—The celebrated SPANISH MINSTRELS will appear in their National Costume at Nine and Eleven o'clock, in addition to the usual VOCAL ENTERTAINMENTS. Suppers, &c., until Twelve o'clock.

GENERAL TOM THUMB, the AMERICAN DWARF.—Crowded Houses.—Patronised 13 years ago by her Majesty, H.R.H. Prince Albert, B.R.H. the Duchess of Kent, &c., &c., Exhibiting EVERY DAY and EVENING, previous to visiting Russia, in REGENCY GALLERY, 69, Quadrant, from 11 to 1, 3 till 5, and 7 to 9 o'clock. Tom is beautifully proportioned, and the smallest man alive. His performances are remarkably talented and enchanting. New characters, costumes, songs, dances, statues, &c. The General continues to wait on the Nobility and Gentry at their residences, on due notice. His miniature equipage promenades the streets daily. Admission is, each, regardless of age; stalls, 2s. and 3s.; children half-price.

S. T. MARTIN'S HALL.—MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH, Wednesday, January 21, under the direction of Mr. HULLAH. Principal Vocalists, Miss Banks, Miss Spiller, Miss Dolly, Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. George Calkin, Mr. Thomas, Mr. H. Barnby. Tickets, 1s., 2s. 6d.; Stalls, 1s., or subsciptions for the Series of Eight Concerts, Stalls, 3s.; Galleries, 1s. New subscribers will be entitled to two extra tickets for this performance.

GRANDE EXHIBITION de PLANTES (produit d'Afrique, des Monts Epines du Monde et Monts de la Lune), 64, New Bond-street.—TILBANTIN, Fils, Horticulteur, à Paris, à l'heure de faire part à MM. les Amateurs qu'il trouveront à son Exposition tout, ce qu'il y a de plus rares et beau en tout genres d'Arbres, Arbustes, Bulbes, Oignons, et Graines de Fleurs.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY is NOW OPEN at the GALLERY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, 5, Pall-mall East. Morning, 1s.; Evening, 6d.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—The Committee have the pleasure to announce that, in compliance with the unanimous expressed desire, and with a view of accommodating the large number of persons unable to procure tickets for last Friday, it has been arranged that a REPETITION PERFORMANCE of MENDELSSOHN'S LOBGESANG and MOZART'S REQUIEM shall take place on Monday next, the 19th of January. Vocalists—Madame, Clara Novello, Mr. and Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Thomas; and the Orchestra of 70 performers. Tickets 3s., 2s., and 1s. 6d.; or season subscriptions of one, two, or three guineas, at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall. Mendelssohn's "Athalia," and Rossini's "Stabat Mater," will be performed on Friday, 23rd of January, as a Subscription Concert. Mr. Macfarren's Analysis of the Lobgesang and the Requiem is now published, price 6d. each book; or sent by post for thirteen stamps.

in the first instance; and the consumption of opium in that country in the second; both of these objects to be accomplished in some way or other by the action of the British Government. When it is considered that the opium trade with China is of the estimated yearly value of £5,000,000; that the Chinese, far more than British merchants, are the smugglers; that the Chinese Government attempted by a kind of *coup d'état* to end the traffic in 1837, and incurred in consequence a war with this country, and a loss of £4,200,000 for opium destroyed, and for the war expenses which they forced the British Government to incur; and that to the Chinese opium is as much a necessary or luxury of life as tobacco is to millions of people in this country, we may form some estimate of the very uphill work which these estimable persons have undertaken in agitating for a discontinuance of the traffic on the part either of British or of Chinese merchants. Doubtless the use of opium by the Chinese is demoralising and pernicious; but may not the same be said of the tobacco and gin used by the people of this country?

of Lord Shaftesbury and his friends could by any unhappy chance be allowed to legislate in the matters of eating, drinking, or smoking, and to prescribe to their countrymen what personal indulgences they should avoid, where would they stop? First of all, as they condemn the use of opium among the Chinese, they would of necessity, and for consistency's sake, be compelled to raise their voices against the cigars of the upper and middle classes, and the pipes of the poor. Having deprived the British Government of the four or five millions of revenue derived from this source, they would, if their principles were good for anything, and if they were sincere in applying them, endeavour to stop the consumption of gin, whisky, and rum, and perhaps of brandy. This reform would deprive the Chancellor of the Exchequer of another large slice of the national resources. Encouraged by their example and their success, he excellent vegetarians would, as a matter of course, try their hands at the reformation of what they call our barbarous habit of eating "dead flesh," and would do their best to place the sheepwalks of the Highlands, of the South Downs of Devon, and of Wales, under the plough, and to convert the New Smithfield, in Copenhagen-fields, into a potato-market. Lord Shaftesbury and his friends may say that all this is absurd. We agree with them that it is so; but it is not a whit more absurd than their attempt to interfere by British legislation with the opium-smoking, or opium-eating, of the Chinese. If the Chinese Government is powerless to stop the traffic among its own people, and if the Chinese have indulged themselves in the habit till it has become a positive necessity of their existence, what call have Lord Shaftesbury and his supporters to interfere? British merchants, who break the laws of China in smuggling opium, are amenable to the Chinese Government, not to their own; and if it can be proved, as every one knows, that the Chinese authorities wink at, and even encourage, the trade, on what pretence of mere humanity can the British Government interfere? It is really a pity that so much energy and such an excellent organisation, should be wasted in such impracticable and wrong-headed benevolence as this. Common sense tells us that this country has no other business with the Chinese but to trade with them; and that the best way for Governments to deal with trade is to leave it to itself—unless, like the slave trade, it be inhuman and immoral. This cannot be said of the opium trade; or, if it can, the same denunciation will apply to scores if not hundreds of trades which good, humane, and Christian men have hitherto carried on, unchallenged by the world, and with advantage to themselves. Moreover, if it be not the trade, but the smuggling, which is to be "put down," why not make a beginning nearer home than China? There is extensive smuggling through Gibraltar, and there is smuggling still more extensive across the Pyrenees into Spain. The plain truth is that an agitation like this is simply preposterous. We deplore that the Chinese eat opium; we also deplore that some Englishmen drink too much gin and some Scotchmen too much whisky; but, if a remedy is to be found for any of these evils, we must look for it elsewhere than in the mode recommended by Lord Shaftesbury and the Society with which he has connected himself.

THE COURT.

The hospitalities of the Court for the present year may be said to have commenced at Windsor Castle on Thursday, when the first of a series of theatrical performances took place on a temporary stage erected in St. George's Hall. The piece selected for representation was the "School for Scandal."

The Count of Flanders arrived at Windsor Castle at the close of last week, and remains on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince.

On Sunday the Court attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle, the Dean of Windsor officiating. The Duchess of Kent and the Princess Amelie of Hohenlohe-Schillingsfürst were present. The Count of Flanders went to the Catholico chapel at Claremont.

On Monday the Queen, with the Princess Alice, walked in the Home Park, and visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent at Frogmore. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Count of Flanders, went out shooting. The Prince of Wales rode out on horseback. In the evening the Lord Chancellor and Lady Cranworth, Lord Rokeby, and Lieutenant-Colonel Maude, Royal Horse Artillery, arrived on a visit, and had the honour of dining with her Majesty. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley also had the honour to be included.

On Tuesday the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Royal, walked in the Home Park. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the Count of Flanders, went out shooting. Lord Rokeby and Lieutenant-Colonel Maude had the honour to accompany the Prince. Lieut.-General Sir Colin Campbell arrived on a visit, and had the honour of joining the Royal dinner party.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle. The Prince of Wales went out shooting, and Prince Arthur and the Princess Louise took a carriage drive. All the visitors, except the Count of Flanders, left the Castle.

On Thursday the first dramatic performance took place in St. George's Hall. The play was the "School for Scandal," and the principal characters were respectively filled by Mr. Webster and Miss Woolgar (Mrs. A. Mellon).

The Countess of Desart has succeeded Lady Macdonald as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lord Waterpark and Colonel the Hon. N. Hood have succeeded the Earl of Caithness and Lieutenant-Colonel F. Cavendish as the Lord and the Groom in Waiting.

Her Excellency the Countess de Persigny gave birth to a daughter at Albert-gate House on Thursday morning.

The Duchess Dowager of Norfolk has removed to the late Earl of Cork's mansion, in Hamilton-place, from South-street.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Clanricarde and Lady Harriet De Burgh have arrived at the family mansion, on Carlton-house-terrace, from Ireland.

THE SENATUS Academicus of the University of Edinburgh have conferred the degree of LL.D. upon Professor James Stephen, of King's College, London.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 14, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. 88 feet above level of sea, corrected and reduced.	Attached Thermometer.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Mean.	Dry Bulb at 9 A.M.	Wet Bulb at 9 A.M.	Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud. (0-10)	Rain in Inches.
Jan. 7	30°411	35°2	33°9	25°3	29°6	33°2	31°0	N.E.	10°0	0°000
8	30°336	34°2	39°7	27°4	33°6	32°2	31°5	S.	10°0	0°030
9	30°255	38°4	46°5	29°4	37°9	39°8	39°5	S.	10°0	0°636
10	29°524	44°4	48°1	36°4	42°3	43°5	43°3	W.	7°0	0°250
11	28°976	39°5	48°3	35°8	42°0	42°1	41°4	N.W.	10°0	0°138
12	29°213	38°3	45°7	30°3	38°0	34°3	34°0	W.	4°0	0°000
13	29°445	36°6	35°5	26°3	30°9	31°5	31°5	N.W.	8°0	0°000
14	30°014	35°0	36°2	29°4	32°8	33°0	30°5	N.W.	0.0	0°000
Means	29°772	37°7	41°7	30°0	35°9	36°2	35°3		1°054	

The range of temperature during the week was 23 deg. Snow was falling on the morning of Jan. 8.

Very heavy rain on the night of Jan. 9, on the morning and night of the 10th, and on the 11th.

Dense fog prevailed on the nights of Jan. 8 and 12, and during the day of the 13th.

Hoar frost on the mornings of Jan. 7, 8, 12, 13, and 14, and on the latter occasion it remained on the ground throughout the day.

The sky has been generally greatly overcast, but was clear on the afternoon of Jan. 19, on the evenings of the 12th and 13th, and throughout the day and evening of the 14th.

J. BREEN.

REPRESENTATION OF WEST KENT.—The death of Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart., having caused a vacancy in Parliament for West Kent, two candidates have already offered themselves to the constituency—one of them being Mr. C. Wykeman Martin, of Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, who will have the support of the Liberal party; and the other Sir Walter Riddell, Bart., Recorder of Maidstone. Sir Walter Riddell stands on the Conservative interest.

REPRESENTATION OF HULL.—Mr. H. W. Schnieder, the owner of large mines near Ulverstone, and whose name is well known in connection with the Mexican and South American trade, has announced himself as a candidate to supply the vacancy in the representation of Kingston-on-Hull, occasioned by the elevation of Sir W. H. Watson to the judicial bench.

REPRESENTATION OF PONTEFRACT.—In reply to a requisition from a number of electors in the borough of Pontefract, Mr. William Wood, of Monkhill House, has consented to come forward as a candidate. As regards his opinions on the questions of the day, he says—"I do not think it necessary to say more than that I consider the time has gone past for party politics, and that all right-minded men—to whatever party they may have previously belonged—will henceforward honestly and heartily co-operate in supporting such measures as are based upon common sense and the principle of doing unto others as we would they should do unto us, and those men who are best fitted and most willing to carry out such measures, and to secure the greatest happiness to the greatest number."

MR. JOHN BRIGHT, M.P.—We have great pleasure in stating that the latest accounts of the health of our excellent representative, Mr. Bright, are of a most satisfactory character. After staying some time in Algeria, the hon. gentleman returned to France to meet his daughter. Mr. Bright spent a day with Lord Brougham at Cannes, and has since left for Italy.—*Manchester Examiner.*

FUNERAL OF MR. BROTHERTON, M.P.—The funeral of the late Mr. Brotherton, M.P., took place on Wednesday last, when his remains were interred in the new cemetery in Eccles New-road, Salford. The funeral cortège included about one hundred carriages, scarcely a public body in the neighbourhood omitting to pay a mark of respect by joining the procession. In addition to the carriages containing the members of the family, there were present those of the High Sheriff and the Bishop of Manchester, and among members of the Legislature present were noticed Mr. W. Brown, M.P., Mr. Hadfield, M.P., Mr. Barnes, M.P., Mr. Kershaw, M.P., and Mr. Cheetham, M.P. There were also carriages containing deputations from the Manchester and Salford Town Councils, the Chamber of Commerce, the Commercial Association, the Manchester and Salford Board of Guardians, the Peel Park Executive Committee, the Lancashire Central Short Time Committee, and the Temperance Society. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Metcalfe, of Philadelphia, the pastor of the congregation of Bible Christians of Cowherdites, of which Mr. Brotherton was a member. An immense concourse of people assembled to witness the funeral.

LOUIS KOSSUTH AND THE WORKING CLASSES OF MANCHESTER.—On M. Kossuth's recent visit to Manchester a public request was made on behalf of the working classes that he would deliver to them a lecture, to which he consented. The lecture will be delivered in the Free-trade Hall on the evening of Saturday, Jan. 24. The subject of the lecture will be "The Political State of Continental Europe."

GOOD NEWS FOR SHOEMAKERS.—Northampton, the great English mart for boots and shoes, has resolved to raise the prices of those indispensable articles, on account of the great advance in the price of the raw material. A meeting of the employers took place last week, at which it was proposed that the manufacturers should intimate a minimum advance in price of 5, 10, or 20 per cent. Mr. Mansfield, the secretary, said it had been thought that the resolution should state that the cost of material had increased 75 per cent, and that the increase should be 25 per cent. Mr. Marshall said according to that they should raise the price 50 per cent. It was stated by another speaker that some manufacturers had already raised their prices, upon which it was remarked that the resolution to be proposed at the meeting would not bind those who had done so. After a long discussion, in the course of which it was stated that hides had increased in price 300 per cent since 1850, Mr. Moore proposed that it be resolved that, in consequence of the cost of material having risen from 50 to 100 per cent, there be an advance of not less than 25 per cent. Mr. Rookby seconded the motion. Mr. Bearn had no objection to it if the sum was not mentioned. It would be a farce to mention any sum; if, for instance, 22½ per cent were offered on some particular article, it would be foolish to suppose they would not take it. He proposed as an amendment that they resolve on "an immediate advance," expunging the amount. Mr. Lines, of Daventry, seconded the amendment. Mr. Mansfield considered the main object was to support the tailors in establishing an advance with their customers. Ultimately, Mr. Moore agreed to withdraw his motion to secure unanimity, and Mr. Bearn's proposition was agreed to.

A PERILOUS LEAP INTO A COALPIT.—A few days since James Morgan, whipper-in, while hunting with Mr. Roth's hounds at Bolton-hill, in Pembrokeshire, in taking a hedge, jumped his horse into an unfenced coalfit, thirty feet in depth, which lay unobserved on the other side of the hedge. Man and horse went down the shaft, at the bottom of which was a depth of eighteen feet of water. Fortunately the sides of the pit had been made sloping, so that before the horse was entirely submerged he gained a footing on the slope. The rider was thrown into the water, but on rising grasped the saddle, and thus held his head above water until assistance arrived, when ropes having been procured he was safely drawn up, and save the shock, perfectly uninjured. The horse was next drawn out, also unhurt.

FLOODS IN NORFOLK.—In consequence of heavy rains, the low lands and marshes in Norfolk have been much flooded, and at many points, on Sunday and Monday, nothing was to be seen but one vast expanse of waters. On Monday afternoon a dense fog prevailed, and a lamentable accident occurred at Thorpe, near Norwich. A young man, named William Watson, from Great Yarmouth, drove to the side of the river Yare, for the purpose of giving his horse some water. The stream being much swollen, he missed the usual watering-place, drove over the river bank into deep water, and was drowned before he could be extricated.

WRECKS OFF SCARBOROUGH.—During the late heavy gales several shipwrecks took place off Scarborough. On observing them the new life-boat was immediately launched and manned by a brave crew, commanded by Mr. Thomas Clayton, who succeeded in rescuing the crew of two Whitby vessels. They then directed their attention to the crew of the *Wilsons*, which was in most imminent danger, the sea rapidly breaking over the ill-fated vessel, the crew and a little boy (son of the master) having taken to the rigging. They succeeded in rescuing nine of the crew; one poor lad, about eighteen years of age, fell between the vessel and the life-boat and was drowned. At this moment one of the crew of the life-boat, Thomas Luccock, was thrown out of the boat by the violence of the sea, and had a narrow escape—his life-belt was no doubt his preserver. The crew of the life-boat, after rendering assistance to the three ships' crews just mentioned, and nothing daunted with their exertions, immediately went with the intention of saving those on board the fishing-smacks, then driving over the rocks, but found that a coble, belonging to Mr. H. Wyvill, had been taken for the same praiseworthy purpose.

VERY PARTICULAR.—At last meeting of the Gateshead Poor-law Guardians, a letter was read from the Poor-law Commissioners asking to be informed of the exact quantity of flour used to a pound of suet pudding. After a discussion, a resolution that on the next occasion they were made one of the dumplings should be sent to the Commissioners to judge for themselves was adopted amid loud laughter.

DESPERATE AFFRAY WITH POACHERS.—At an early hour last Monday morning seven of the keepers employed by Sir John Harpur Crewe, Bart., of Calke Abbey, Derbyshire, went out to watch as usual. When they arrived at Pilsbury Hills they saw two poachers in the act of setting snares. The keepers went up to them to take them into custody, when they were immediately attacked by fifteen other poachers who had been concealed close by. The keepers were only armed with sticks, consequently they were able to make but feeble resistance against the force arrayed against them. A desperate fight ensued, which ended in favour of the poachers. Three of the keepers were dangerously wounded, and now lie in a precarious state. The poachers used bludgeons, and were accompanied by dogs. They had no fire-arms. In the afternoon handbills were issued offering £100 reward for the apprehension of the ruffians.

A BURGLAR'S "BUSINESS" LETTER.—A letter found on Daniel Dickinson, of Rawmarch, one of the men in custody on the charge of a daring burglary, with violence and robbery of about £300, at the residence of Mr. W. Bradley, brewer, near Sheffield, shows very clearly that a regular organisation has existed, by which burglars and housebreakers in other parts of Yorkshire and the neighbouring counties of Derby and Nottingham, having planned burglaries, have obtained ready aid from a gang in the neighbourhood of Barnsley in the carrying of them out. The letter is as follows:—

Friend—Please to send me word if you can come on Wednesday night and bring £5 or 5½ hares with you for no other night will do it all alone. We shall kill about 50 or 60 if all right. Send me word and I will meet you first at Chesterfield or Eckington station state time and day so no more from me.

Direct—Mansfield Nottingham.

The name in the address is not given, for obvious reasons. It does not require much penetration to discover the true meaning of the letter. That the "four or five hares," along with their captain, arrived duly to order, is beyond doubt. Wednesday, it will be observed, is fixed upon, as "no other night will do." It is a somewhat singular coincidence that on a Wednesday, the 3rd December, Dickinson is traced to a railway station, on a line communicating with "Eckington or Chesterfield;" and that, shortly after one o'clock on the morning of Thursday, the residence of Mr. Robinson and his wife, aged respectively seventy-eight and seventy, residing "alone" at Pleasley, a few miles from "Mansfield, Nottinghamshire," was broken into by a party of burglars, two of whom remained on guard outside, while five, with their faces covered with masks, and carrying a dark lantern and short heavy sticks, entered the bed-room of the aged couple, ransacked the drawers, and, under threats of violence, obtained, not "about fifty or eighty," as indicated in the letter, but £37 10s. in cash, and other property. Within twenty minutes after the burglary was committed two of the Nottinghamshire rural police were informed of it; but though a hue and cry was raised the burglars were not discovered. At the burglary at Manor Oaks, near Sheffield, seven burglars assisted; some of them were men from the neighbourhood of Barnsley, a distance of thirteen or fourteen miles, aided by others in Sheffield; but as yet, the only men against whom conclusive evidence has been obtained are James Gleadhall, of Barnsley, and Daniel Dickinson—on whom the above letter was found, and who is believed to be the captain of the gang.

SAVINGS-BANKS.

MR. SIKES, of Huddersfield, suggests the following improvements:—

1st. The guarantee by the State of all deposits, and the establishment of a General Guarantee Fund.

2nd. The formation of a London department, under whose direction all savings-banks would be conducted. The department to consist of a court of 24 directors, representing the leading savings-banks in the kingdom—to meet monthly; and of a staff of officers and inspectors, to be appointed and under the control of the National Debt Commissioners.

THE WAR WITH CHINA.



THE DUTCH FOLLY FORT, CANTON RIVER.—FROM A PAINTING BY A CHINESE ARTIST.

(From a Correspondent.)

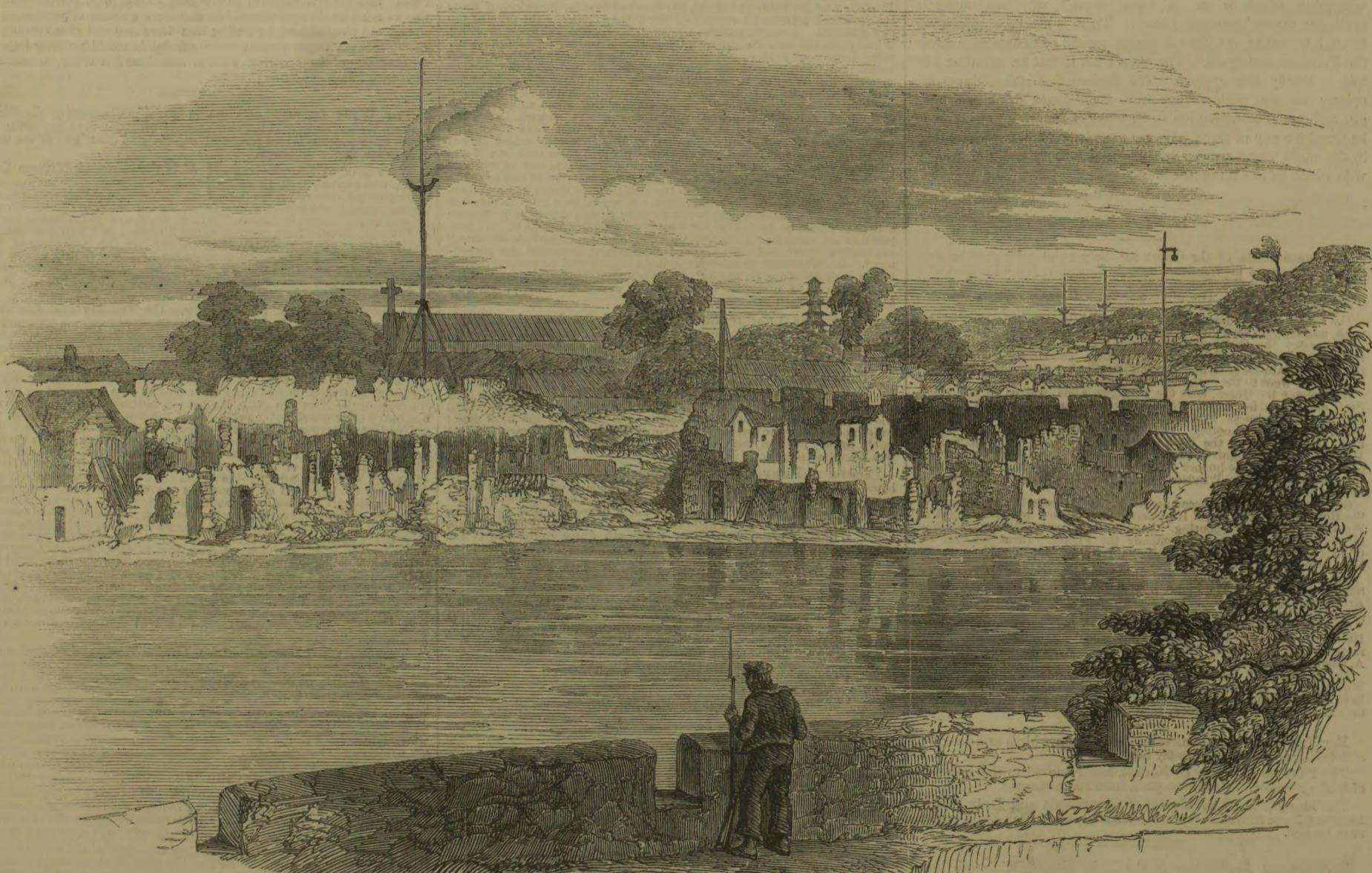
CANTON, Nov. 14, 1856.

You will have learned by the Overland Mail that our nation is once more at loggerheads with the children of the Sun and Moon—the famed Celestials of the Inner Country. The steps which have led to this outbreak are easily recounted, and the justice of our appeal to force must be allowed by all who will take the trouble to consider the case.

The present Governor-General of the two Kwang rejoices in the somewhat peaceable-sounding name of "Yeh." His predecessor, Seu, had been unfortunate against the rebels in the years 1854-5,

and was, therefore, superseded by the above-named Viceroy, who, if I am not wrongly informed, is a native of one of the southern provinces, and undoubtedly a man of great abilities; obstinate and blood-thirsty, however, he certainly is to a degree. He was completely successful in beating off the rebel force that threatened the city about the time of his succession to power, and during the last eighteen months has been indulging his desire for vengeance on account of the members of his own family slain by the rebels, by sacrificing whole hecatombs of the suspected people who fell into his hands, in the execution-ground of Canton.

This bloodthirsty propensity of his has at last, however, led him into a difficulty he could hardly have anticipated, or perhaps his successes against the rebels had somewhat dimmed his memory with respect to the events of 1840-41; at any rate his conduct requires some such explanation. The facts of the case, then, are simply these. It appears that a lorch, named the *Arrow*, trading on the coast, had anchored off Canton somewhere at the beginning of last October. She was duly registered, was protected by the English flag, and commanded by an English captain. The authorities in the city of Canton having been informed, however, that on board this lorch were one or



PART OF THE DESTROYED WALLS OF CANTON, FROM THE DUTCH FOLLY FORT.—FROM A SKETCH BY AN OFFICER ENGAGED IN THE OPERATIONS.

THE WAR WITH CHINA.

two Chinamen who had been formerly engaged in piracy or rebellion, sent a force on board her, who seized the twelve Chinese men composing her crew, and at the same time hauled down the English ensign flying at the peak. To all this the captain of the lorchha swears. Yeh and his functionaries, on the other hand, declare that no colours were flying at the time, and therefore plead ignorance of the vessel being an English one.

Mr. Consul Parkes, having been informed of the proceedings, immediately repaired alongside the lorchha, and, being a linguist as well as the chief English authority at Canton, demanded the restoration of the men and an apology for the insult. His interference, however, was treated with contempt; and some threats added involving his personal safety.

Under these circumstances commenced a long correspondence with the Viceroy, throughout which he assumed an arrogant and overbearing tone, and showed an obstinate determination to make no concession.

In this stage of the matter Commodore Elliot, commanding the *Sybil*, then lying in the Canton river, proceeded to Canton with the boats of his ship in tow of the *Coromandel* steam-tender, and publicly seized upon an armed junk lying opposite the city, taking her to Whampoa as a prize, or by way of reprisals for the indignities offered to our flag. The Governor-General was duly notified of this proceeding, but this also failed to elicit any satisfactory reply to our demands. Sir John Bowring, her Majesty's Plenipotentiary in China, having likewise expostulated in vain, an ultimatum was at length sent into the Chinese authorities, allowing his Excellency the Viceroy twenty-four hours to make the necessary apologies and reparation, failing which, the business would be handed over to the naval authorities, to be by them carried out and enforced. This having been likewise ineffectual to the desired end, it was found necessary to strike, and the first blow was as severe as it was sudden. In two days Sir Michael Seymour had dismantled the whole of the forts on both branches of the river, together with the Red Fort, Bird's Nest, and Shameen Forts, contiguous to the city. I should state that the Bogue and other batteries at the mouth of the river were not attacked at this time.

The next step was to breach the city walls, which was speedily done by landing guns on a small island in the river, called Dutch Folly; and the day following the Admiral, at the head of about 300 men, entered the new city, and penetrated into the interior of the Governor-General's yamun, or official residence. His Excellency himself had wisely vacated the palace, so that no interview could be obtained in that way, although the Admiral had been at considerable pains to bring about a meeting. Sir Michael Seymour on the day following duly informed the Viceroy of his proceedings; and besought him to listen to reason, and spare the lives of his de-

pendents, now wholly at our mercy. This humane appeal was treated

with derision, and a notification made to the English authorities that they should be all swept into the sea—entirely annihilated—by the

At the taking of Rangoon, also, Lieutenant Beamish was one of the first to land. He was then acting Mate of H.M.S. *Fox*, and for his services on that occasion has received a medal and clasp.

"braves," who daily clamoured to be allowed to exterminate them. Under these circumstances it was found necessary to proceed on the offensive. Accordingly, two mortars and three heavy guns having been placed in position on the Dutch Folly, a sharp shelling on the Governmental part of the city was kept up for several days. Two large fires occurred in the suburbs, destroying many hundred houses and very valuable property. Still, however, the Chinese obstinately refused to accede to our demands.

The Admiral, therefore, next proceeded to destroy the junks of war and a fortification situated below the city, called French Folly. The Chinese soldiers here showed an unexpected resistance, firing and reloading their guns with much determination; the junks, however, were speedily burned, and the fort carried by assault. A considerable force then proceeded to attack the Bogue forts, so celebrated in the history of our dealings with China, and for the fourth time during the last few years (beginning with Captain Maxwell, of the *Alceste*) these forts have been silenced and dismantled.

In this state the matter rests; all trade, of course, is at an end, our factories deserted, and the traffic on the river effectually stopped.

The casualties on our side consist of six men killed (four at the assault on the city, one at the taking of the French Folly, and one at the Bogue), with some sixteen or seventeen wounded. On the part of the Chinese the loss must have been very great.

Two attempts have been made to destroy our ships by fire-rafts providentially both these failed.

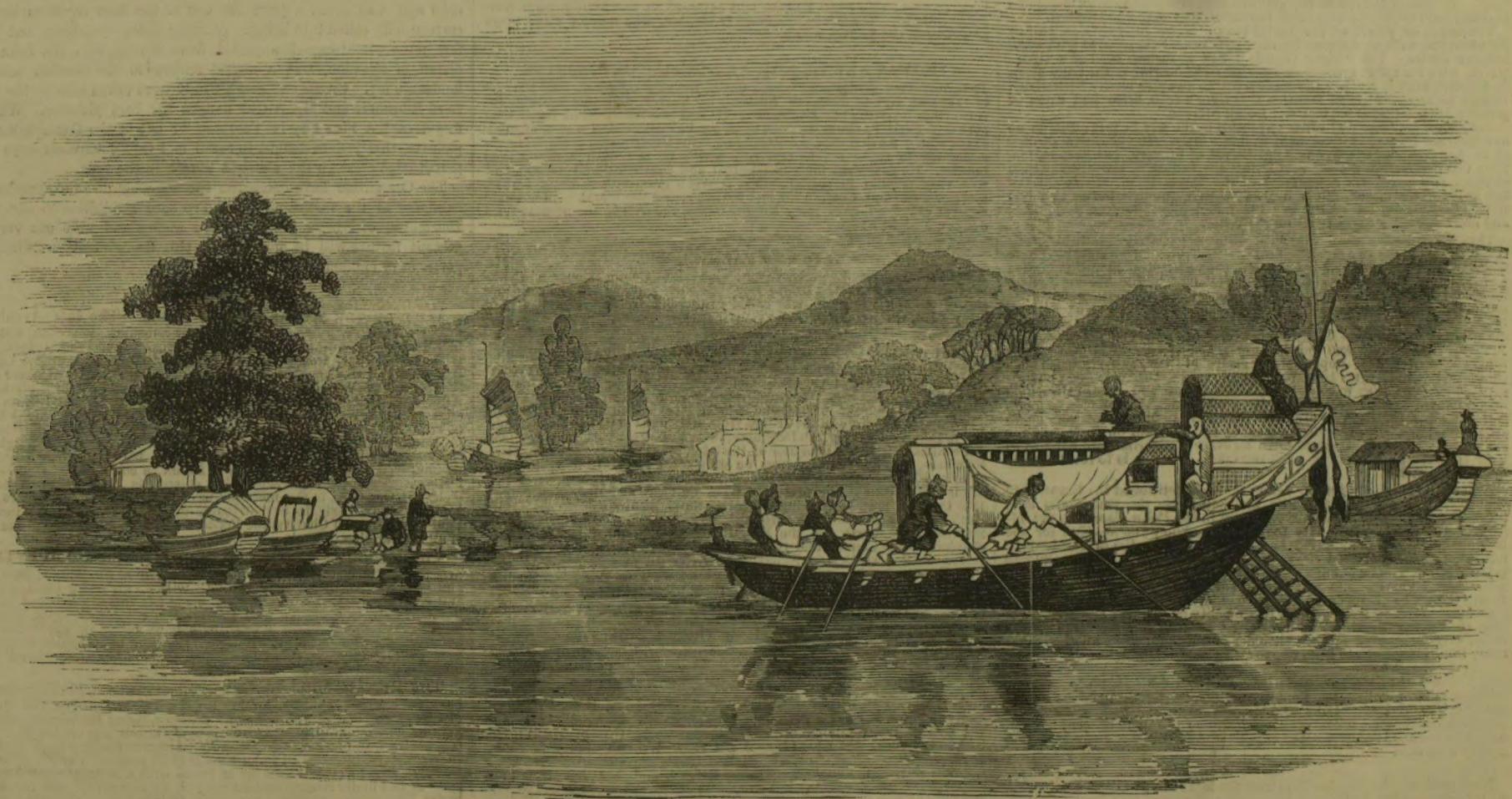
Where this matter will end we are at a loss to know. The Chinese authorities appear resolved to hold out, and we certainly must proceed. Provisions are stopped, and rewards offered for any Englishman's head; so that we are all kept in durance vile unable to move about or carry on any business whatever with people on shore.

The Chinese authorities have issued proclamations calling on all good citizens to resist our "unprovoked" attack, stating as a reason that we have been defeated by Russia in our late war, and have now come to squeeze the people of China, in order to defray our expenses. Has Russia any hand in this matter? E.

Lieutenant H. H. Beamish, of H.M.S. *Calcutta*, who is mentioned in Sir M. Seymour's despatch as having displayed "cool courage in carrying out an anchor during the heaviest of the fire, to enable the *Barracouta* to spring her broadside," also took part in the bombardment of Sveborg, having, with another Lieutenant, the command of a division of rocket-boats in the night attack.



CHINESE SOLDIERS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



CHINESE PASSAGE BOATS, NEAR CANTON.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

CANTON.—PLAN OF THE CITY.

The Engraving upon the front page of the present Number is from a Sketch by our Canton Correspondent of this week: it shows Canton, as seen from the English Reach, on Oct. 27, about dusk, with a portion of the suburbs on fire.

The *Plan of the City* is from a Chinese source, and will indicate to the reader the precise localities mentioned in the accounts of the late bombardment.

THE DUTCH FOLLY FORT, NEAR CANTON.

The Dutch Folly Fort is situated in the centre of the river which flows through Canton, on a small rocky island, and is built close to the water-mark all round it. It consists of two tiers of about fifty guns, one above the other, the lower tier in casemates; with houses, trees, &c., in the interior of the fort. The island is a little below the factories at Canton, which can be seen on the right of the drawing, with the several flags of the different Consuls flying; and, from the position of the fort, it has a very commanding site to prevent the approach of an enemy up the river. It was stormed and carried by the *Encounter* on the 24th October, and held by a party of marines and seamen during the operations of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, K.C.B., against the city. Two long 32-pounders from the *Encounter* were got into position in this fort, and materially assisted in breaching the high, massive stone wall surrounding the old city. The Dutch Folly Fort was appropriated for the reception of the wounded during the bombardment. We are indebted for the accompanying sketch to Major Baines, 95th Regiment, who was stationed for some years with his regiment at Hong-Kong.

This gentleman possesses a curious caricature of the English at Hong-Kong, which, from its graphic humour, is entitled to special mention. It is supposed to have been drawn by a Chinese inhabitant of Shanghai, to be forwarded with a letter to illustrate the appearance of the English to some of his relations living far in the interior, who had never seen the "Fanquis," or White Devils, as all Europeans are termed by them. The English party are supposed to be returning to the steamer to which they belong, after having paid a visit to the English Consul at Shanghai, who is represented standing in the verandah of the Consulate, after bidding them adieu. Marines and seamen precede the party to the boat. In a chair is seated the Captain's wife, escorted by several officers, followed by seamen and marines; and the rear is brought up by a midshipman and the Indian cook, who is represented with a live cock under his arm.

In the offing is a steamer, which is curiously drawn. The midshipman in the maintop on the look-out, the gun on the forecastle, the inverted ensign, the boat approaching the vessel—all tend to show their curious ideas of the English. The servant of the Consul—a true Chinese woman—is represented looking through the window at the English departing; and the Consul's look-out man appears above with glass in hand.

THE DESTROYED WALLS.

This Illustration, at page 38, is from a Sketch by our Correspondent of last week.

CHINESE SOLDIERS.

In glancing at a Chinese army, it seems astonishing that the small handful of emaciated British troops, with the few Indian regiments, under Lord Gough, could have escaped utter annihilation. The Chinese coolie can lift and carry a heavier weight than a British soldier, and is often larger than our Lifeguardsmen; and the Tartar, from his northern birth and education, is stronger still, though not of such large build. But the discipline is wanting.

A Chinese barracks is always a conspicuous object. In front of a low, white-walled house, surmounted with dragon roofs, stand two poles, bearing the banners of the Mandarin in command. A red ball, surmounting a half moon, is painted between every two windows, of which there are generally three on each side of the door. To the left of the building in front is a look-out station, like a sentry-box on stilts; and to the left of that again are three small chimneys, for watch-fires. Besides marking a military station these chimneys are in line, at visible distances from each other along the whole length of the coast, for the purpose of conveying intelligence of an attack.

The Chinese soldier labours under every disadvantage. His arms are bad, the matchlock is of the rudest kind, and not brought up in a line with the eye as an English musket. The powder is of the coarsest brand, and loose. Each soldier, besides his cartouch-box, is provided with a measure, with which he loads his piece. The lances are of the roughest order, being simply a pike placed on the head of a piece of bamboo.

The bow might have been considered a superior weapon of its kind in the early part of the Ta-tsing dynasty, but decidedly is not fitted for modern warfare. It is very difficult to string—the process is by placing one end between the ankles, bringing the other over the back, and slipping the string on in front; the value depends on the number of catties (one pound and a quarter) required to draw it to a bend sufficient for stringing, which varies from one to two hundred catties.

The ordnance department is much on a par. The brass pieces are generally from four and five to twenty pounders, while the iron guns range as high as sixty-eight pounds. They are nearly all of the same shape. On the centre is the name of the foundry, city, province, and Governor-General. They are all fixtures in their huge carriages. The guns are usually painted black, with red stripes, and the carriages red. The powder is provided in a large box.

The dress in no way varies from that of a peasant, except in the jacket and cap. The former is blue, with facings varying in colour according to the regiment; a round white patch in front and rear receives the name of the soldier and his corps, which takes some high-flown title, as "The Invincibles," "The Never Conquered," &c. The cap is surmounted by a red tassel, and, in the case of an officer, with a ball besides.

The sword is rather a novel contrivance. It consists of two blades and handles in one scabbard, so beautifully fitted together that when drawn out it is one or two weapons, to be used in one or both hands, according to the will of the wearer, who is usually very expert with it in either way. In one of the edicts the soldiers were ordered to strike the blades together, and so make a noise that the barbarians would be terrified.

The target, or shield, of the Tartar troops is no insignificant weapon for offence as well as defence in their opinion. It is painted with some hideous device. The "Tiger Guards" had a furious head of a tiger; which, with the awful grimace and antics, "the bearing of the truly brave in action," cannot fail, say the Mandarins, to awe and terrify barbarians. It may be as well here to mention that tiger's flesh, dried and eaten in powder, supplies what we may call Dutch courage.

Individual bravery was often exhibited in the war in 1842; but in no one instance did the Chinese fight well in a body. The obstinate defence of the joss-house at Sye Kee was not an act of bravery, but desperation. They had deserved to die for mutilating the bodies of the fallen British soldiers, and feared the resentment of the Royal Irish, whose Colonel had fallen in the attack. Poor fellows! their cases were hard: they had to face a powerful foe on the one hand, and their ignorant, prejudiced, and more merciless compatriots on the other.

Thus far we have used the term Chinese generally: but, properly speaking, there are two separate armies—the Tartar Pa-ke and the Native—which, in truth, are little more or less than an embodied militia, called Lub-ying, or "Troops of the Green Standard." The Tartars muster under eight banners:—yellow with border, yellow without, white with, red with, white without, red without, blue with, and blue without borders. The Tartar and the Chinese Generals in the different provinces are entirely independent of each other, and have fixed official residences. A Tartar cannot command Chinese, nor a Chinese Tartar troops. Their numbers it would be impossible to arrive at; but, as every tenth male capable of bearing arms is drawn by lot to serve, the force must be prodigious. The Chinese work at their several trades, and some of them hold land; but the Tartars are soldiers by profession. The pay of a common soldier is a mace (fourpence) a day. The military Mandarins wear chain armour and helmets, presented to them by the Emperor on their arriving at that rank; and, in common with all other Mandarins, are entitled to wear the Joe—an emblem of rank and office. Its use is to rest the arms upon when sitting.

A Tartar general at Chusan, before the war, petitioned the Emperor to abolish the use of bows and arrows, and substitute the matchlocks as a more efficient weapon. An edict appeared in the *Pekin Gazette* to the following effect:—"Ignorant fool that you are, know you not that for the last 200 years that our army has been placed on the firmest basis of military power, and would you now that I should alter it? Had a Chinese petitioned me, I should have treated his ignorance with the contempt it would have deserved. But for you, a Tartar, I order you to be degraded from your rank and rendered incapable of ever after redeeming it." In six months after Chusan fell, and the inutility of the bow and arrow was fully shown. The artillery of a regiment consists of a few large matchlocks, each supported on the shoulder of one man, while another takes aim; these carry balls of from one to two pounds weight.

PASSAGE-BOATS BETWEEN CANTON AND MACAO.

These boats ply between Canton and Macao. Nothing here is arid, nothing uncultivated. Hills and vales, bridges and houses, trees and vegetation, alike give token of having known the hand of man: not of man who destroys and levels, but of man who embellishes and adds to the beauty of nature.

Next week we shall further illustrate the localities of the Bombardment with some Sketches with which we have been favoured by a Correspondent on board H.M.S. *Nankin*.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE BISHOP OF CORK.

THE RIGHT REV. JAMES WILSON, D.D., Bishop of the United Sees of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he took honours in 1802. He became a M.A. in 1809, and a priest in 1810. He was made a D.D. in 1830, was Precentor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, and Chancellor of the Diocese of Leighlin, and was consecrated Bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, in 1848. The Right Rev. Prelate died on the 5th inst.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF DONOUGHMORE.

BARBARA, Countess Dowager of Donoughmore, whose death from bronchitis occurred at Chiavari, near Genoa, on the 11th ult., was the second daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel William Reynell, of Castle Reynell, county Westmeath, by his wife Jane, daughter of the late Sir William Montgomerie, Bart., of Macbie-hill, and was the second wife of the late John Hely Hutchinson, third Earl of Donoughmore, who was once so well-known as "Layette Hutchinson" from his aiding in the escape of M. de Lavallée. Her Ladyship was married to the late Earl the 5th September, 1827, and had issue one son, John William, a Captain in the 13th Light Dragoons, who died in the Crimea in 1855, and three daughters. Her Ladyship became a widow the 14th September, 1851. She was the step-mother of the present Earl of Donoughmore.

LORD MILFORD.

THE RIGHT HON. RICHARD BULKELEY PHILIPPS, Baron Milford, of Picton Castle, in the county of Pembrokeshire, a Baronet, and Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of the town of Haverfordwest, died at his seat, Picton Castle, on the 3rd inst., after a short but severe illness. Lord Milford was the only son of John Grant, Esq., of Nolton, near Haverfordwest, by his wife, Mary Philippa Artemisia, who was the only daughter and heiress of James Child, Esq., of Bigelly House, Pembrokeshire, and the sole grandchild of Bulkeley Philipps, Esq., of Abercove, Carmarthenshire. His Lordship was born the 7th June, 1801, and in 1824 assumed, by sign manual, in respect of the memory of his maternal cousin, Sir Richard Philipps, Baron Milford (a Baronet of a former creation then extinct), whose estates he inherited, the surname and arms of Philipps. He was for a long time a prominent member of the House of Commons, having represented Haverfordwest in Parliament for nearly twenty years. He was created a Baronet the 13th February, 1828, and was raised to the Peerage in 1847. His Lordship married, first, Eliza, only daughter of the late John Gordon, Esq., of Hanwell, Middlesex, which lady died on the 24th March, 1852. He married, secondly, the 5th June, 1854, Lady Anne Jane Howard, fourth daughter of William, Earl of Wicklow, M.P. He had no issue by either marriage, and his Peerage and Baronetcy became, therefore, extinct.

SIR EDMUND FILMER, BART.

SIR EDMUND FILMER, eighth Baronet, of East Sutton, Kent, was the only son of Captain Edmund Filmer, by his wife, Emilia, eldest daughter of Dr. George Skene, and the grandson of the Rev. Sir Edmund Filmer, the sixth Baronet. He was born the 14th June, 1809, and succeeded to the Baronetcy on the demise of his uncle, the Rev. Sir John Filmer, the seventh Baronet, the 15th July, 1834. He married, the 1st Sept., 1831, Helen, second daughter of David Monro, Esq., of Quebec, and had issue two sons and three daughters. Sir Edmund was M.P. for the Western Division of Kent, from 1838 till his death; and was made a Deputy Lieutenant of that county in 1849. He died on the 8th inst., at his seat, East Sutton-place, Kent.

GENERAL BARON ROBERT FAGEL.

THE name of this veteran and esteemed diplomatist is well known in this country, not only from his own residence in England, but also from the fact that his elder brother, Baron Henri Fagel, for more than thirty-five years filled the office of Ambassador from the Netherlands to the Court of St. James's. Robert Fagel was the son of Baron Henri Fagel, Secretary of State in the Netherlands, the representative of a family long distinguished for loyalty and patriotism. Robert Fagel began his military career in the campaigns of 1793 and 1794. In the following year he came over to England with the Stadholder (later known as King William I.), of whom he was ever a devoted adherent, and whose life he had the opportunity of saving at the battle of Wagram. Baron Robert Fagel eventually became a General of Infantry. He, in 1814, went as Dutch Ambassador to the Court of the Tuilleries, and remained there until that capacity until two years ago, when his great age and increasing infirmities caused him finally to relinquish a post which he had for upwards of forty years held, with high honour to himself and much advantage to his country. The Baron died at Paris on the 26th ult., at the advanced age of eighty-four. He was much beloved and respected for his many virtues and amiable qualities, both public and private. His remains have been transported to the Hague, and interred in the family vault near Scheveningen. The Baron had another brother, who was for some years an officer in the British Army.

THOMAS NEWTE, ESQ., OF DUVALE, DEVONSHIRE.

THIS respected gentleman, whose death recently occurred, was the son of Thomas Newte, Esq., of Sutton, in Surrey, and was latterly, for some time, a resident of Boulogne. He had previously lived for a long period in Paris, in the enjoyment of an ample fortune, and was a member of the club "Ancien Cercle d'Étrangers" for thirty years. He had subsequently to suffer severe reverses, which he did with undiminished honour. He possessed high intellectual and conversational powers, and was very popular in society. Mr. Newte's grandfather, Capt. Newte, accompanied Capt. Cook in his last voyage round the world. Mr. Newte was the only brother of Lady Knight Bruce, the wife of the present Lord Justice Knight Bruce.

ARTHUR PALMER, ESQ.

ARTHUR PALMER, Esq., barrister at law, late Commissioner of Bankruptcy, and Judge of the Bristol County Court, who died at his residence in Clifton on the 19th ult., was called to the Bar by the Hon. Society of Gray's Inn the 16th May, 1821.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL THE HON. HENRY EDWARD BUTLER.

The following further information corrects some inaccuracies in the recent obituary of the gallant General. General Butler's eldest son, by his first marriage, Captain Henry Thomas Butler, who was killed at Inkerman, left a widow, but no issue. His second son, Captain Charles George Butler, 86th Regiment, did not die in the Crimea from fatigue, as stated in the memoir, but in Bombay of fever, 18th December, 1854; having married, 29th May, 1850, Jane Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Captain Prosser, 7th Fusiliers, by whom, who has survived him, he left issue, a son and a daughter, viz., Charles Henry Somerset, born 5th August, 1851 (who is heir presumptive of his second cousin, the present Earl of Carrick), and Mary Emily, born 17th October, 1852, both living. General Butler's third son, James Armar Butler, the gallant and lamented defender of Sillistria, died in 1854, unmarried. The fourth son, the Rev. Pierce Butler, did duty as military chaplain in the Crimea, and on the expedition to Kertch. He had only returned a few weeks from Sillistria, where he had gone purposely to place a monument over his gallant brother's grave, when he was called upon to attend the deathbed of his noble father. The General's issue by his second marriage are Jane Hester and Edward John, both minors, who have now returned to England.

ERRATUM.—Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Brotherton is not, as was stated, the brother of the late lamented Mr. Brotherton, M.P.; nor is he in any wise related to him.

WILLS.—The will of James Meadows Rendel, F.R.S., F.R.G.S., of Kensington Palace Gardens, has just been proved under £100,000; also the will of Sir William Cornwallis Eustace, and that of Sir William Sherlock Gooch, £50,000.—General the Hon. William Henry Gardner, R.A., £14,000.—Lieut.-General Thomas Morgan, H.E.L.C., £20,000.—Captain William Laugharne, R.N., £40,000, and has left charitable bequests.—Frederick Winslow Young, Esq., Frederick's-place, Old Jewry, £45,000.—James G. Playfair, M.D., Piccadilly, £1000.—The Rev. William Lashmer Batley, Rector of Woodford, Northamptonshire, £12,000.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE great artistic world of England will learn with satisfaction that the Royal Academy of Arts in England elected, on Monday last, Mr. Alfred Elmore a full member of the *forty* select. Mr. Elmore became an exhibitor for the first time in the year 1834; brought an inborn feeling to his art; studied his calling with care in galleries at home and abroad; exhibited few pictures, and those always well considered and well rendered; was chosen an Associate of the Academy in the year 1844, immediately after the election of Mr. Cope, Mr. Dyce, and Mr. Marshall; first arrested and maintained public approbation by his thoroughly English picture of the "Invention of the Stocking-loom;" and since then, by thoughtful study, conscientious care, and a knowledge of the resources of his art, has more than justified the confidence placed in his talents by the many and the few. We will add that those who thought injustice had been done to Mr. Elmore by the Academy in electing over his head Mr. Ward and Mr. Frith are now fully satisfied. Even the many hard-working friends of Mr. Sidney Cooper will not be displeased with this wise election into the vacant forty.

Yet another bit of news touching the Royal Academy, and still the offspring of the week. Since bodies were first incorporated and chartered under Acts of Parliament there has never been, perhaps the city of London excepted, a more immovable body than the Royal Academy of Arts in London. The forty constituting the first Academy partook of the stolid qualities of the founder so admirably portrayed by Mr. Thackeray in his lecture of Tuesday last. Born Britons and chosen Academicians, they stood to their order—what that order was, old Dance, the last survivor of the first forty, could not explain, intelligent as he was, to the very last of a long life. To the first forty followed another forty, and then we believe (will actuaries tell us if we are wrong?) a third forty—all stolid and most undeniably Georgian. Rich men—Chantrey and Turner—one liberal and enlightened, the other penurious and uninformed—added to this folly of the forty; then came another race (not altogether unfeigned); and now (with pleasure we record the fact) the bulk of the forty have sunk the Georgian era and become—thanks to her Majesty and the Prince—an Academy of Arts with larger sympathies, and consequently fewer follies, than Chantrey and Turner sought to perpetuate in vain. But to our news. This immovable body has, after full thoughtful consideration, consented to send the diploma pictures of their defunct brethren to the Art-Treasures Exhibition at Manchester. But what are the diploma pictures? we think we can hear certain persons ask who correspond with our intelligent contemporary, *Notes and Queries*. The answer is easy enough. A member of the Royal Academy on his election is required to transmit and deposit a specimen of his handicraft. Some of the specimens thus sent are indifferent enough. Christie and Manson, and Sotheby and Wilkinson, would advance very little upon them; yet there are choice examples, more than enough to induce Messrs. Gambart, Graves, Agnew, and Grundy (those *real* patrons of art), to fill up cheques on trustworthy banks for larger amounts than the Italian Lorenzo or the English Charles ever thought of giving, with all their large-heartedness, from their ample pockets.

Lecturers are asking, "Has Sir Robert Peel sold all his turquoises?" The turquoise, it is truly said, is essentially a stone for Ambassadors to deal in. But we will not quarrel with an after-dinner lecturer; and yet we must record another saying relating to Sir Robert. The son of our great Minister (the Minister designated in our hearing by the Duke as a thoroughly-truthful man) does not tell us what he thought when he looked on the Houghton pictures at St. Petersburg. "Did romancing Sir Robert Peel think, when at St. Petersburg, that the Drayton collection of one Sir Robert would follow the Houghton collection of another Sir Robert? That the dreams of Peel of a taste in perpetuity were to be as unreal as the dreams of his predecessor in finance, Sir Robert Walpole?"

Connected with literature there is little to tell, and yet that little is worth telling. The heads of colleges at Oxford are movable like the Royal Academy. What will Magdalene and Christchurch men, and all who graduated *between* those earned colleges, think when they hear for the first time that Christchurch is to be open to all *foundations*, and that the Radcliffe Library is to be converted into a kind of Panizzi reading-room, or chapel of relief to the overstocked Bodleian? Yet that such changes will occur there can be no manner of doubt.

Artists are regretting the premature deaths of two men, skilful in their respective callings. To John Bridges, of Oxford, who died a few days ago, was given a prize for one of the best cartoons that the cartoon folly called into being. Another John—yonger, and therefore more promising—has passed from among us. Mr. John Middleton, of Norwich, was a skilful scholar in the Norfolk school of landscape art. Crome and Stark would have taken him by the hand. Lord Ellesmere and Mr. Arden bought his best pictures. Who has forgotten "A Fine Day in February"? one of the Cavendish-square pictures, that judges delight to recall and valetudinarians hope to see perpetuated through the shortest month in the year.

The Committee have entrusted the selection of Photographs to be exhibited at the forthcoming Art Treasure Exhibition to Mr. Philip Delamotte, of King's College. We understand that one very important feature will be included in this department—a collection of portraits of eminent men.

WILL OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS.—The late Archbishop of Paris made a will, dated at his country house at Belle Eau, only two months before his death. This will, which was found in his desk, began with the following words:—"I die in the faith and love of the Catholic Apostolic and Roman Church, for the glory of which I have never ceased to labour in the various ranks which I have filled in the sacred hierarchy." After having divided the bulk of his property, which is far from large, among his relatives, he bequeaths a pension of 1000 fr. a year to the Bishop of Tripoli's sister, as a mark of his respect for the Bishop; five new legacies to servants, and various sums to different churches and religious or charitable institutions. He leaves his mitre, his stole, the richly-bound missal given to him by the Bishop of Droux, a collection of medals commemorating the principal acts of his episcopate, and various articles of ecclesiastical attire, to the metropolitan church. He also bestows 10,000 fr. for the poor of Paris, to be distributed by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Sisters of Charity, the Petites-Sœurs des Pauvres, and the Curés of all the parishes of Paris.

MUSIC.

The season of musical activity in London has not yet arrived. The only noticeable concert of last week was the Sacred Harmonic Society's performance of Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang," and Mozart's "Requiem," on Friday, the 9th inst. These two masterpieces are generally performed together, and form a most interesting evening's entertainment. Though the weather was most inclement, they drew one of the greatest audiences we have ever seen in Exeter-hall, and never on any previous occasion were so magnificently performed. The execution of the solo parts by Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Lockey, was perfect; and the choruses were sung with a degree of precision and power worthy of the highest admiration. In consequence of its great success, this performance is to be repeated next week.

The preparations for the Italian Opera season are now beginning to be talked of. Mr. Gye has made what there is every reason to believe will be a lucky hit, by engaging Mlle. Eufrosyne Parepa, a young singer who promises to be a star of the first magnitude. She has made a great impression at several of the principal theatres in Italy, and also at Lisbon and Barcelona, where she now is. She is only eighteen; has a superb soprano voice; is very beautiful; and is a charming actress both in tragedy and comedy. She will hold the place of second to Bosio. Mlle. Plunkett is to be the principal danseuse at the Royal Italian Opera, instead of Madame Cerito.

At Her Majesty's Theatre Mlle. Piccolomini will again be the great star. Mr. Lumley has engaged a new tenor, Signor Giugliani, of whose powers and reputation in Italy the highest accounts are given.

It has been repeatedly affirmed that an agreement has been concluded between the Duke of Bedford and Mr. Gye for the rebuilding of Covent-garden Theatre; and a paragraph to this effect has once more appeared. We understand, however, that whatever may hereafter be the case, no such agreement has as yet been entered into. The Royal Italian Opera this year will be located in Drury Lane.

THERE is considerable musical activity in Dublin at present. The Irish Musical Fund Society—an institution similar to our Royal Society for the Benefit of Decayed Musicians, which has, for three-quarters of a century, been of great utility—had its annual concert on Friday last, when "The Messiah" was performed to a great audience, and in a magnificent manner. The principal soprano part was beautifully sung by Miss Catherine Hayes; the other solo-singers were Mr. Geary, Dr. Robinson, Mr. W. Robinson, the Misses Cruise, Mlle. Corelli, Mr. Richard Smith, and Mr. Kelly. Mr. Joseph Robinson was the conductor, and Dr. Stewart presided at the organ.—On the same day a meeting of the dignitaries, prebendaries, minor canons, and vicars chorals of St. Patrick's and Christchurch Cathedrals was held for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Sir John Stevenson, the celebrated Irish composer, which, it had been suggested, would be most suitably accomplished by erecting a testimonial window of stained glass in St. Patrick's Cathedral. It was unanimously resolved that this suggestion should be adopted; and a committee, with the Dean of St. Patrick's at its head, was appointed to carry it into effect.—The Dublin Philharmonic Society had their second concert on Wednesday last. The principal performers were Miss Catherine Hayes, Mlle. Corelli, Signor F. Lablache, Mr. Millard, Herr Oberthür, and Mr. Osborne.—Miss Hayes's concerts have drawn immense houses. The series terminates this evening.

MR. HENRY MORLEY'S ANNUAL EVENING CONCERT took place at the Lecture-hall, Greenwich, on Thursday, the 8th inst. The principal performers were Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. J. L. Hatton, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Sims Reeves, Miss Arabella Goddard, and Herr Molique. The room was crowded in every part. Miss Arabella Goddard obtained an enthusiastic encore by her exquisite performance of Liszt's "Illustrations du Prophète." Madame Clara Novello and Mr. Sims Reeves were also likewise honoured in the duet, "Amor possente nome." Mr. J. L. Hatton conducted with his usual ability, and sang two of his own songs, both of which were redeemed.

THE BRIXTON AMATEUR HARMONIC UNION.—A young and promising amateur musical society, which has been in existence only a few months, has just given its second concert. The first part of the programme consisted of vocal and instrumental selections from favourite operas by Rossini, Mozart, Donizetti, &c.; and the second part of a miscellaneous collection from the best masters. The orchestral music was well performed, and several vocal and instrumental pieces were admirably executed during the evening. The spacious room was crowded by the élite of the neighbourhood, and the applause with which they received the performances evinced the gratification the concert had afforded them.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—AMERICAN LITERATURE.—The Rev. E. G. Holland commenced a course of three lectures on this subject on Thursday week, when he discoursed eloquently and well on his native poets and poetry, from the first traces of both to the present time. On Wednesday last he dealt with the romance-writers of the United States. His lecture commenced with some remarks on the general love of story-telling, and the truth and life expected from the novelist, who follows in the track of those Oriental teachers that, not by abstractions, but by concrete embodiments and impersonations, instructed the childhood of the race. The romancist, nevertheless, should, in Mr. Holland's opinion, create ideals and suggest noble impulses; for the romance is the modern prose-epic. The romance-writers of the New World had but a brief history, but a great variety of natural scenery to draw from. The Indian life had also to be depicted. James Fennimore Cooper, who appeared in 1812, was the first American novelist truly so called. Six years of actual experience familiarised him with the sea and its life. He was a true English American, and showed great decision of character. Cooper had to defend himself against the whole American press—and triumphed. "The Spy" was his first success—an interesting story, which has been extensively read and translated. Mr. Holland dwelt at large on its merit and plot. He thought "The Pathfinder" one of the best of Cooper's land novels, and disputed the dictum that the "Pioneer" was the best. "The Prairie," in his opinion, was the most estimable. The next romancist to be regarded was Washington Irving—the best of American humourists; the most elegant painter of human manners and natural scenery; and the most skilful in the aesthetic use of language. His "Salmagundi" was exquisitely and genuinely witty. The "Knickerbocker" was his first romance, in the guise of a comic history. On the "Sketch-book" and "Bracebridge Hall" his fame, however, rests. Irving is eminently a humourist. Longfellow, also, has written a few novels; "Hyperion" is the most famous. But Longfellow is more a poet than a novelist. As the latter, Nathaniel Hawthorne is far greater. His "Twice-told Tales" were at one time popular. His "Scarlet Letter" is the most taking of his romances, and his different "wonder-books" are calculated to amuse and instruct children of all ages. The lecture closed with a few remarks on the writings of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, whose reputation must stand on "Uncle Tom's Cabin;" for "Dred" Mr. Holland considered to be much inferior, but thought that we should not be too hasty to decide on its degree of merit.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

RACE entries this January, taking them as a whole, have been a very excellent average, though some of the large handicaps are not so fortunate as usual. The Great Northern, for instance, has only sixty-nine nominations, or 119 less than the Chester Cup, which it was intended to rival. The weights for the latter are not to appear till April, and the raising point is 9 st. Fandango is in the former and the Epsom Cup; still we do not expect to see him out before Ascot. Lord Milton, who declined it some seasons since, has accepted the Doncaster stewardship, and we trust that the first year of it will be marked by the St. Leger victory of Ignoramus. Sir Tatton Sykes was bought in for 170 gs. at Tattersall's last week; and, as Launcelot could only fetch 100 gs. twelve months before, it is more difficult than ever to account for buyers' eccentricities. The two West Australian yearling fillies fetched 200 gs. each at York. This blood will, no doubt, be very much run after, and it has certainly made a good beginning. Weatherbit is in the market, and will be on view at Tattersall's till Monday week; and Earl Spencer has announced that his "annual unreserved sale of yearlings" will take place this year on the race-course at Northampton, instead of "The Corner" as of yore. Sydney and Goldfinch are the principal representatives of the Derby nags at Newmarket, where some great changes are going on. The last remnant of the Palace is about to be offered for sale by the Crown,

as the Duke of Rutland, its late tenant, has little hope of visiting Newmarket again. The splendid trees, some of them 200 years old, behind "Crocky's" old abode, are being felled, and the ground is to be converted into paddocks for mares and foals; but we believe that the Joint-Stock Stud Farm, which was announced on such a Brobdingnagian scale last year, is quite a stillborn scheme. They did talk of making a soft gallop round the paddocks, which seemed hardly consistent with the well-being of mares and foals. The new soft gallop on the Heath is upwards of a mile in length, and was made by peeling off the turf, and digging it to the depth of fourteen inches, and then carefully returfing it.

The weather still continues exceedingly fitful, and scent is wretched; in fact, many huntsmen say that they have not known such a bad season for nearly twenty years. If it has not been good up to Christmas, it seldom happens that it improves materially afterwards. Still, the Holderness, who have the finest scenting country in England, opened the new year with two tremendous days consecutively. On Jan. 1st they ran a fox to ground, after forty minutes, and then killed another, after an hour and twenty-five minutes; and on Jan. 2nd they had two forty-five minute runs, each ending with a kill. We hear that the fox which played Lord Lonsdale's hounds such a clever trick on the ice (as recorded by a correspondent) was got out soon after they were called off, but died that night from the effects of his hour's float. He once played them the same trick before, as they lost suddenly at the pond, and "feathered" into the sedge, though no one on that occasion could discern his nose above the water. About 250 horsemen meet these hounds, but they ride over the scent and the hounds so unmercifully, and play such havoc with everything in that country of deep lanes and stiff fences, that sport is impossible. Poor Jim Morgan has no chance with such a lawless crew, as ninety per cent of them seem to think it their bounden duty to start with the fox, and let the hounds come as they can.

Lord Southampton, who hunts his hounds almost entirely himself, has not had much sport; but his neighbour, Captain Thompson, has rarely gone out lately without a run. Last season the Captain had no opportunity of routing his woodlands in the cub-hunting time; but this season he began very early, and almost lived in them for six weeks. He is now reaping the benefit of it, for the foxes fly as soon as they hear the note of a hound, and woodland foxes are proverbially stout. The Belvoir hounds had a most splendid run on Monday, which may be styled so far the run of the Melton season. The meet was at Piper's Hole, and there were fully three hundred horsemen watching for a start, as it is hopeless to think of riding to catch "the Duke's" in the form to which Will Goodall has now brought them if they settle to a good fox. In this instance they found a regular clipper at Holwell Mouth, who broke away under the hills for Old Dalby Wood, which he dared not face, and thence to Willoughby. Up to this point the distance was seven miles, and the time twenty-eight minutes. He then bore for the Melton and Nottingham turnpike-road, crossing it near the Curates' and Parsons' gorse, on to Hickling, Kinnoulton, Owtorpe, and thence to Widmerpool, where they killed him. Very few saw the end of the run, and amongst the foremost was Mr. F. Gordon, who rode The Clown in the recent Melton steeplechase, and the untiring huntsman, who rode his horse (and he has only poor cattle to begin with) to a stand-still, and finished on foot!

The coursing fixtures for the week are Lee Bridge (Salop)—where the celebrated Will Staples now keeps an inn—on Monday; Ashdown Park, on Monday, &c.; Southminster, on Tuesday and Wednesday; Chaddersley Corbett (Warwickshire), on Wednesday; Brough (Caterick), on Wednesday and Thursday; and Southport (open), on Wednesday, &c. The sixteenth volume of "Thacker's Courser's Annual" has just been published, and will be found to contain a great deal more than mere invoice lists of running greyhounds. Some of the best "long-tail" owners of the day have communicated their experiences.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

WE are disappointed in the Fourth Exhibition of the Photographic Society. Whether the great Sun, to whom Photographers bow down, has behaved unkindly to his worshippers during the past year, or whether the hot enthusiasm of the professionals and amateurs has begun to cool, we are unable to decide, but certain it is that, looking at the evidence before us, this new art has not progressed in England one step since our visit to the Water-Colour Gallery at this time last year. We miss, too, the names of many of the old exhibitors. What have Mr. Lake Price, Mr. Henry Leverett, or Mr. Hennah been doing that they cannot contribute a single picture? Even the venerable Knight, Sir W. Newton, who rejoices in pictures "out of focus," has not sent his portraits of trees; nor has Mr. Claudet added his usual coloured stereoscopic pictures of fair ladies. To make amends, however, that Crimean hero, Mr. Fenton, covers the walls with large, bold, and well-chosen pictures from Scotland and the north of England; but we regret to say that, as photographs, we consider them to be far inferior to his pictures of "Bolton" and "Rievaulx Abbey," exhibited two years since—one of which we have engraved. It was suggested to us that his pictures this year look as if a thin sheet of gauze were laid over them, so faint is the general effect, and so wanting are they in that vigour which every good photograph from nature should possess. Of Mr. Fenton's contributions we like best his 102, 115; but we have not a word to say for such flat and unprofitable things as 150, 420, 306.

Mr. Henry White, too, usually a most careful and successful practitioner of the art, has this year failed in impressing us with any favourable sensation. His pictures are much less brilliant than usual. Some of the subjects are too commonplace and ill-chosen, such as No. 633; but we cannot pass by Nos. 319 and 647 without drawing attention to the foliage of the clematis, the honeysuckle, and rose, which is here better rendered than in any picture we have before noticed.

Mr. Philip Delamotte sends this year a series of beautiful little views of Oxford. One of the chief recommendations of Mr. Delamotte's works is that his points of view are always well selected. He seems to possess an educated eye that at once rejects those combinations which are so painful to men of taste, but which never give one moment's uneasiness to those photographers who rejoice in the minute detail to be found in brick walls, or in the excellent portraits of individuals who are seen standing in the foreground in various attitudes much more natural than artistic, and who are always staring vigorously at the camera. Whenever Mr. Delamotte introduces figures it is with propriety, and as an aid to the general effect; but we notice that he very rarely has recourse to this assistance, and we can readily imagine that it is from the great difficulty he finds in getting people in easy attitudes. The moment a man is asked to stand still that he may be included in a picture he almost invariably assumes some ungainly and constrained position, and all case seems to have forsaken him: directly he is told that he may move he becomes himself again. We recommend this curious fact to the notice of psychologists, and if they can tell photographers how to get over the difficulty they will do a great service. On one of the screens is a large frame containing some twenty or more stereoscopic views of the Colleges at Oxford, by Mr. Delamotte, which are undoubtedly the prettiest things of the kind ever done.

Mr. Thurston Thompson's copies of drawings by Raphael and Holbein are perhaps the most valuable reproductions ever effected by photography—no other art can give such exact copies as these are—to every intent they are equal to the originals; and when we see how beautifully Mr. Thompson has done his work—and there is nothing in photography more difficult—we do not wonder that he is afforded access to the Royal Collection, the Louvre, and the Oxford Museum. His copy of the large enamel by Leonard Limousin, in the Louvre, is very fine. It is taken on several different negatives, and he has managed to print from them, and join them in such a way that a casual observer would imagine the whole was printed from one glass.

Mr. Llewelyn's pictures this year are not so good as usual. They have the same fault as Mr. Fenton's. They are not bright and sparkling as we are accustomed to see his landscapes. His best is a "Gipsy Encampment"—a pleasing photograph; but the truthful art tells us they are not real gipsies. He exhibits a little picture, "The Forest Scene" (582), by the oxymel process, which is a perfect gem.

Messrs. Bullock and Dolamore's large pictures are some of them very excellent, especially the "Views of Rydal Water" (237, 239, and

247); but then "Wells Cathedral" and "Glastonbury Abbey" are not up to the mark.

Mr. Bedford has sent but few contributions this year; but, as usual, they are among the best in the room. There are qualities in his views 350, 356, 360, which we never saw surpassed. The wet, glassy look of the stones, the reality of the tumbling water, &c., are all exact transcripts of nature. Many of the photographers may take a hint from the very beautiful way in which Mr. Bedford always prints his pictures. — — —

(To be continued.)

"THE FETE CHAMPETRE."

FROM A PICTURE BY WATTEAU, IN THE COLLECTION OF HIS LATE MAJESTY LOUIS PHILIPPE.

SAINTH an irreverent poet, to whom, moreover, Orientalisms had done good service—

A Persian's heaven is easily made,

'Tis but black eyes and lemonade.

And it would seem to an Englishman that a Continental revel is more economical still. There is not even the lemonade. In all these pictures of *al fresco* enjoyment, the components are two or three pairs of young people—one of the gentlemen inclined to excess of sprightliness—a fountain, and a guitar. There is a fete ready made. And wise and happy are the people who are so little dependent upon cooks, confectioners, and wine-merchants, and who ask for nothing but sunshine and music. Watteau was always sketching these little *Paradiso* scenes, and when you go down to the Manchester Exhibition just compare his festivities with any others—English, Dutch, what you will—that you may see, or Mr. Peter Cunningham may tell you to look for. Whereas, in the latter, you will find the creature comforts treated as essentials to happiness, Watteau is perpetually preaching that if you have a fine day and a few young ladies to sing with, to dance with, and to tease, you may really make a very good thing out of this life.

This group of eight, in the picture we have engraved, is charmingly placed near the Fountain of the Syren. We need not tell you to notice how clever is the composition of the picture, the eye is at once delighted with it. There are four stories going on. In the foreground a gentleman is entreating a lady to take up the tambourine and accompany him in a duet. On the left is a calm and placid pair of lovers, too-tremulous to be demonstrative, but the lady giving an indolent instinctive imitation of the game at which her friend and the masked cavalier have been playing. The latter is endeavouring to exact a forfeiture, which the young lady is in too high spirits to yield to her unknown persecutor. The central figure, that of the Pierrot, who stands in an easy attitude, and is rallying the calm couple upon their love-birdishness is wanted where it is, or one would wonder why he does not let the lovers alone, and come round and talk to the handsome girl on the grass to the left. They are all happy—exuberantly, mildly, or sentimentally happy.

We are bound to say that a friend of ours, who believes that no out-of-doors enjoyment can possibly be successful without the aid of Messrs. Fortnum and Mason—and there is much force in his view of the question—takes an entirely different idea of this picture. He says that the party is not happy at all, but very hungry. The man with the guitar is only begging the lady to play in order to wile away the time until the déjeuner, or lunch, or picnic, or whatever it is, shall begin. The calm girl is simply, he says, too cross to talk, and is looking at the water from the Syren's fountain, and wishing she had something to drink. The lively couple have grown snappish and are quarrelling; and, to crown all, the Pierrot, who has been sent round to the house to see what chance there was of refreshment, has evidently had something himself, and is apprising the party, with mischievous pleasure, that there is no sign of anything yet—not a cloth laid, or a servant about. But this, our friend, who is of a benevolent turn of mind, declares is only in joke, and the handsome girl on the left hears the gong going, and in a few minutes they will be all busting into comfortable places round a table covered with cold fowls, and tongues, and tipsy-cake, and champagne-bottles, and flowers. You see that he has no imagination, and cannot get out of English ways and comedies. No more could the children, on the witch trial, who testified that the witches had taken them to a splendid banquet, at which, if you pulled a string, porringers of milk and thick slices of bread, "with plenty of butter," came flying through the air to you. The children gave their best notion of a revel, and so does our friend who has interpreted Watteau.

We have a notion that, if the month were not January, and the thermometer at 38 deg., we could have said "something about the picture in accordance with its character. But who can hold hot iron in his hand by thinking of the frozen Caucasus; and who, while his hand shakes with cold, can dilate upon the pleasure of sitting, lightly clad and lightly minded, beside a plashing fountain, by simply gazing at a picture by Watteau. *Culpa nostra!* We ought to have written our say about this work upon a warm summer or autumn day. Do you remember when Pantagruel and his friends were at sea, "junketing, tippling, discoursing, and telling stories," they one day heard some strange noises, as of people talking in the air. Panurge, as usual, began to be hideously frightened, and to abuse the pilot fearfully for not tacking about and getting away, and Friar John for not lugging out his great sword. But the captain assured them that there was nothing extraordinary in the matter. They were on the confines of the Frozen Deep, where, on the previous winter there had been a great battle, and all the exclamations of the combatants had been frozen up, and were then thawing. The giant Pantagruel hereupon reached up into the clouds, and seized a whole handful, not yet thawed, and threw them on the deck, "like your rough sugar-plums, of many colours," which presently banged off, some in threats, some in shouts, some in jokes, and some in music. Now if a real true Rabelaisian—O that one lived with and wrote for none but such!—will study our Watteau, and what we have written before a good fire, we doubt not but the two will thaw into what we should have said, had we sat down to the work in more genial weather.

"THE ENTRANCE TO THE TEXEL—STORMY WEATHER."

PAINTED BY W. VANDELVE.

THE collection of the Earl of Ellesmere is one of the richest in Europe in the works of William Vandervelde; but, unlike the calm sea pieces in Sir Robert Peel's collection, they are either naval battles or representations of the element in a state of agitation. Of one of the latter we present our readers with an illustration; and the picture derives an additional interest from having stimulated Turner to the successful rivalry shown in his companion or pendant picture in the same collection, an Engraving of which appeared in this Journal Feb. 25, 1851. In force of finely-contrasted effect, if not in other respects, our own countryman has undoubtedly excelled; we can therefore afford to give to the present picture the credit of the original conception, and we may admire some of its other great merits.

What, then, can be more truthful than the long rolling swell of the waves impatiently urging each other on and indicating the quarter of the wind by the oblique direction of their serrated ranks? You see, also, that the wind is momentarily increasing, for the foam is torn off their crests. How true to nature, also, is the breaking of the billow over the bows of the boat as she beats up courageously against the wind, leaving of the baffled wave nothing but salt spray and a surface of futile foam divided into a thousand meshed interstices! Then how grand are those gathering masses of cloud—those swelling piles of cumulus so low, threatening, and thunderous—that flake of cloud, too, on the right, contrasting so poetically in the azure of a higher and calmer stratum! The various vessels are no less admirable. Though staggering from the blow, how sturdily and quaint is the old "high-pooed and flag-beset" war-ship in the middle distance! The Engraving alone furnishes, moreover, abundant evidence of great knowledge of the artistic value of contrast and repetition. For example, how forcibly the blanched sail in the sun-burst is relieved by the contrast of the black cloud it is brought against; and also by the boat beyond, which latter not only gives motion by the repetition of the lines, but serves like a cast-shadow the more completely to detach the nearer boat! The dark cloud-shadows on the water give also not merely breadth, but still greater value and interest to the foreground, and are prevented themselves from being heavy by another sunbeam in the distance, the delicate grey tone of which it is impossible to describe by any method of mere word-painting. And, lastly, mark how scientifically the gigantic and ponderous clouds are subdued and harmonised by repetition of form, and at once contrasted and supported by gradation of tone. To fully appreciate the clearness and transparency—or, as Dr. Waagen has it, the "wetness"—of the water we must refer our readers to the picture itself.



"A FÊTE CHAMPTRE." — PAINTED BY WATTEAU.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



"THE ENTRANCE TO THE TEXEL—STORMY WEATHER." — PAINTED BY WILLIAM VANDEVELDE.—FROM THE ELLESMORE GALLERY.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

NEW CHAPEL AT HOBART TOWN.

In the *Colonial Times*, lately received, is recorded the laying of the foundation-stone of this new Congregational Chapel, in Davey-street, Hobart Town, on the 30th of July last. Although the weather was unfavourable, there were present on the ground from three to four hundred persons, including ministers, the elder children belonging to the Collins-street Sabbath-school, besides the congregation usually assembling at Collins-street Chapel.

A platform was erected near the foundation-stone, covered with flags; and a temporary gallery was provided for the choir. The plans and sections of the intended structure were exhibited on the platform. The booming of the guns from the battery, in honour of the ratification of Peace, prevented the inauguration of the proceedings for a few minutes after the appointed time, the hour of noon. The Rev. G. Clarke announced that the proceedings would be commenced by singing "The Sanctus," which was done by the children and choir in excellent style. The Rev. J. M. Strongman, of New Town, read the 123rd Psalm. The Rev. F. Miller (minister of the Independent Chapel, Brisbane street) offered prayer for the Divine blessing on the business of the day, and for the prosperity of the minister and congregation intending to worship in the proposed new chapel. The Rev. G. Clarke then, as minister, came forward and addressed the assembly in an impressive manner.

H. Hopkins, Esq., J.P., proceeded to lay the foundation-stone. An inscription (contained in a bottle hermetically sealed), beautifully engraved on parchment, was deposited in the recess left for the purpose. Mr. Hopkins having spread the mortar, the stone was lowered into its proper position, the mallet was applied, and Mr. Hopkins delivered an address, in which he referred to the time of his first arrival in this colony, when there was only one small building used by their friends the Wesleyans, and that for Roman Catholic worship close by; these were the only buildings for worship in the colony at that time; but he could now see upwards of a hundred places of worship, the greater part of which were erected by voluntary contributions. Prayers were then said, the Doxology was sung, and the impressive ceremony terminated.

A refection was then served at Mr. Butler's new store, Salamanca-place, in the vicinity of the site; at the conclusion of which the Revs. Messrs. Clarke, Poore, Miller, Wade, and Waterfield, and Messrs. Hopkins, Tiffin, and Pretty, severally addressed the meeting.

The chapel is intended for the use of the church and congregation under the pastorate of the Rev. G. Clarke. When completed it will be one of the handsomest edifices of the kind in Hobart Town. The design is by Messrs. Tiffin and Davidson, of Macquarie-street. The style is Early English. The façade consists of a tower and broach spire (96 feet high in the clear), with an entrance by one deeply-recessed doorway opening into the porch entrance. The chapel will consist of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and vestry; school-rooms are designed to be built at the back. The roof will be open-timbered, consisting entirely of hard wood, boarded and slated; supported by nave piers formed of eight alternated clustered and octagonal columns. The pulpit will be of cedar, handsomely carved. The chancel will be



THE RIGHT REV. DR. BICKERSTETH, THE NEW BISHOP OF RIPON.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY SHARPE AND MELVILLE.

Since the removal of the cloth manufacture to the north and west of England, Cranbrook has been a mart for the agricultural produce of the neighbourhood, especially hops.

THE NEW BISHOP OF RIPON.

THE consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Bickersteth, the newly appointed Bishop of Ripon, will take place this day in the minster of that diocese.

The parishioners of St. Giles's, and the poor especially, feel that by Dr. Bickersteth's removal, they have parted from an affectionate, zealous, and truly Christian pastor; and an expression of the general feeling of the parish was recorded at a meeting convened on Tuesday last of the joint vestry of St. Giles's and St. George's, Bloomsbury, when it was resolved unanimously—

That this Vestry desire to tender their warmest congratulations to Dr. Bickersteth on his appointment by the Crown to the Bishopric of Ripon. That, whilst the experience they have gained of the faithfulness, wisdom, and unvarying kindness with which Dr. Bickersteth has discharged the duties of his ministerial office makes them deeply sensible of the loss which the parishes will sustain by his removal, yet they cannot but feel that the interests of the Church of Christ have been well consulted in the appointment to the Episcopate of one who reflects so truly, in his private and public character, the principles and practice of the Reformed Church of England.

Dr. Bickersteth is a man of striking figure, commanding manners, and energetic delivery; his style of preaching is very impressive; and his appointment to the episcopal bench will, doubtless, give peculiar satisfaction to his diocese, and to the country at large. The following outline of the Bishop's antecedents will prove that he is entitled to the confidence and respect both of clergy and laity.

The Right Rev. Dr. Robert Bickersteth was born at Acton, in

Suffolk, in August 1816. His father was the Rev. John Bickersteth, then Vicar of that parish, and afterwards Rector of Sapcote, Leicestershire, and Rural Dean, who died in October of last year. He is a nephew of the late Lord Langdale, Master of the Rolls; and of the late Rev. Edward Bickersteth, so well known as the author of many religious works. He is a member of Queen's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1841: he was ordained by the Bishop of Peterborough the same year, and for some time assisted his father as Curate of Sapcote. He afterwards accepted the Curacy of the parish church of Reading; and thence removed to Clapham, where he was Curate of the parish church, as well as for some time Lecturer at the Chapel of the Magdalen Hospital, until, a vacancy occurring in St. John's Church, Clapham Rise, he was appointed to the Incumbency of that church by Dr. Dealy. His labours in that district were so highly appreciated by a large and influential congregation, that it was with much difficulty he could be persuaded to accept the Rectory of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, offered to him by Lord Truro, simply on the ground of his well-known talents and supposed ability to take the charge of that large and important parish.

On the great deterioration in the value of that Rectory by the operation of the new London Burial Act, to the amount of nearly £800 a year, as alluded to by the Bishop of London in the House of Lords, Lord Chancellor Cranworth, to make some amends to Mr. Bickersteth, for so serious a diminution of income, presented him to the Canonry of Salisbury, vacant by the election of Dr. Hamiltion to that

See. During the time of his charge of the arduous parish of St. Giles, as well as in all his previous cures, where he is still remembered with the greatest affection, the highest testimony has been borne, by all persons acquainted with the facts, to Dr. Bickersteth's administrative talents, united with the higher qualifications of a Christian pastor. He has thus been for fourteen years not only a distinguished preacher, but in various spheres a laborious and successful parish priest. Added to his parochial engagements he was for some years a constant contributor to and editor of a religious periodical; and has published some volumes of sermons of a practical character, and several smaller works—one especially on the habitations of the London poor, which has stimulated many persons to the erection of the model lodging-houses so beneficial to the working classes of the metropolis. He has also been the editor of several biographical works published by Messrs. Seeley. He has taken a prominent part in the working and management of many of the leading religious societies of the Church, and it is difficult to imagine any person better qualified to sympathise with the difficulties and direct the energies of the body of clergy committed to his charge, or more likely to uphold the cause of the Church of England in the Legislature. In 1846 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Garde Esq., of Cork, and sister of Rev. R. Garde, Vicar of Harrold, Bedfordshire, by whom he has a family of five children. The venerable Edward Bickersteth, Archdeacon of Buckingham, is brother to the new Bishop; and the Rev. Lawrence Otley, the Rector of Richmond is his Lordship's brother-in-law.

The statement which has been made by some of our contemporaries to the effect that the new Bishop of Ripon was a member of the College of Surgeons, and Licentiate of Apothecaries' Hall, is totally incorrect. Mr. Bickersteth studied medicine for a short period in London, but relinquished all idea of entering the medical profession long before he was of a sufficient age to become a candidate for the diploma of the College or the license of the Hall.



NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL AT HOBART TOWN.

lighted by a three-light pointed window filled with stained glass. The building throughout will be of freestone, from the quarry at Risoron; and, as far as practicable, colonial material alone is to be used in its construction. It is expected that the edifice will be ready for the opening services about July next. The cost will be under £5000. The new chapel will contain no pews, but open benches (cedar) only, and will comprise sittings for about 700 persons.

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To show the importance in which it was held at one time, it is related that Queen Elizabeth, in one of her progresses through the county, visited Cranbrook, and, after inspecting the cloth works, walked to Coursehorne Manor, a mile distant, the seat of the family of the Hendleys or Henley, entirely upon broadcloth.

Our illustration shows part of what was years ago one of the principal cloth manufactories at Cranbrook, the buildings extending some distance down the main street of the town, which have from time to time been removed to give place to more compact and comfortable dwelling-houses. These remains are not unipicturesque; in which respect they have the advantage over the factory buildings by which they have been superseded.



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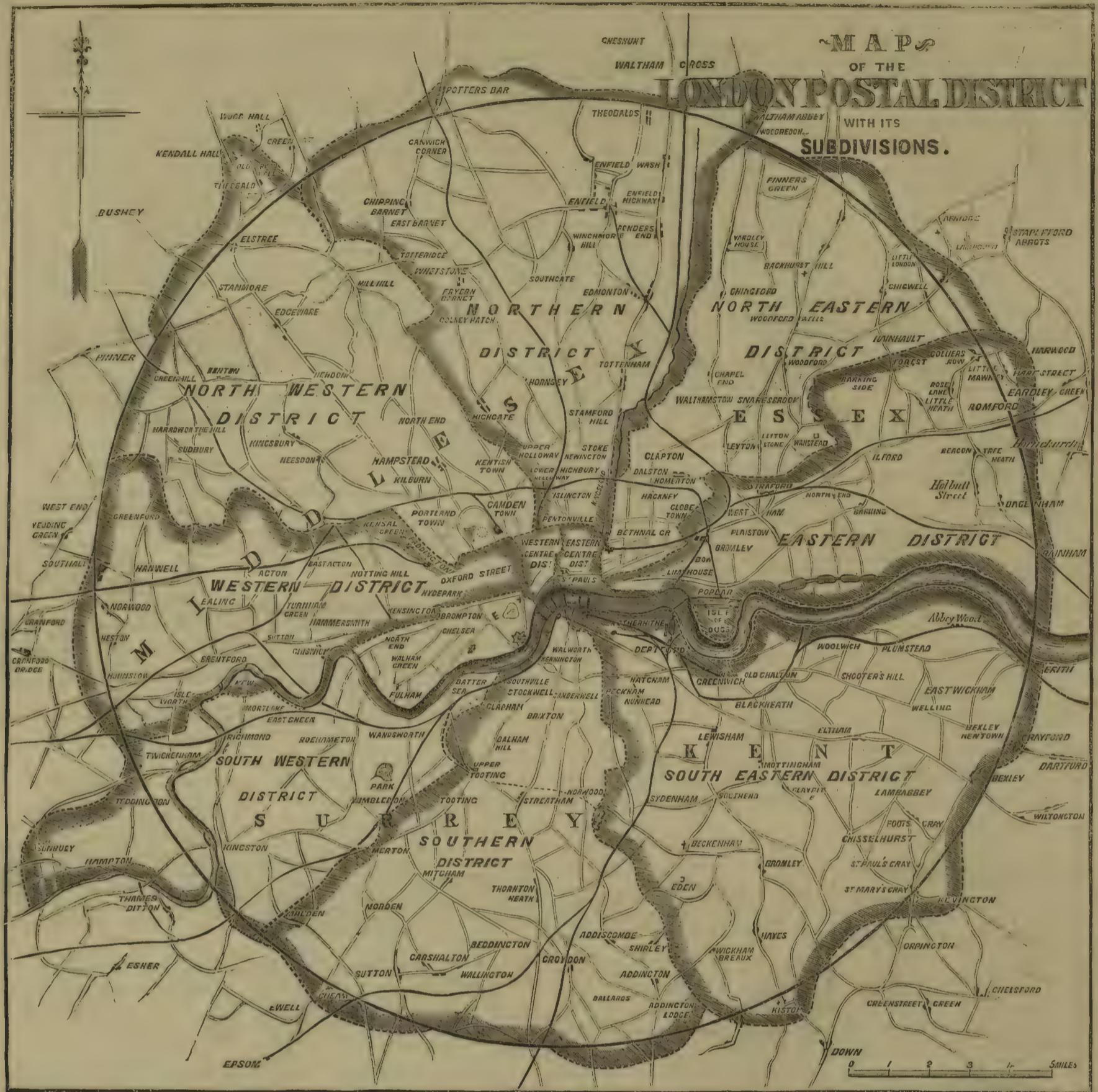
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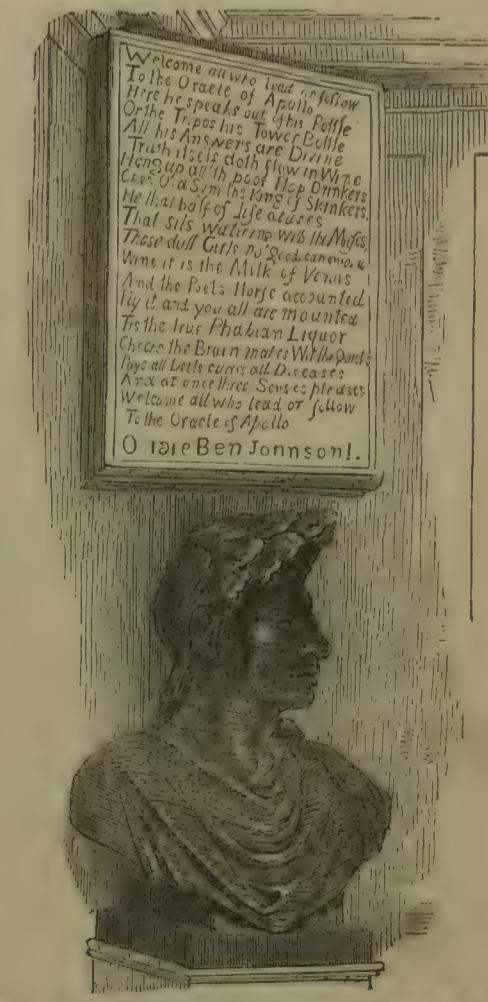


ment, when journeying to London, as the story-books say, to seek his fortune. This house, previous to the building of the present spacious edifice, was a low-browed building with a narrow entrance, and a shop

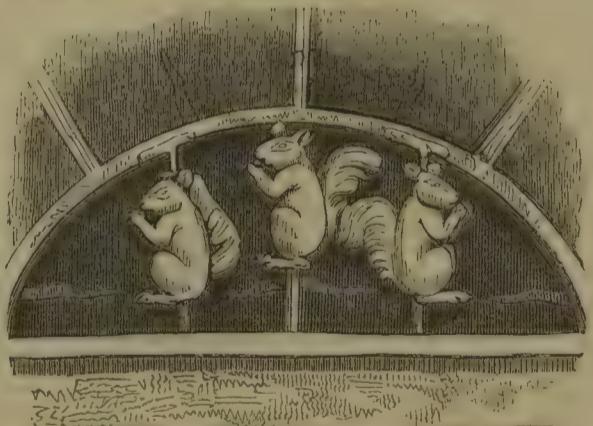


OLD BANK SIGN—THE SUNFLOWER (CHILD'S).

fitted with a counter and desk—like some of the few old London shops still existing in and about Tower-street.

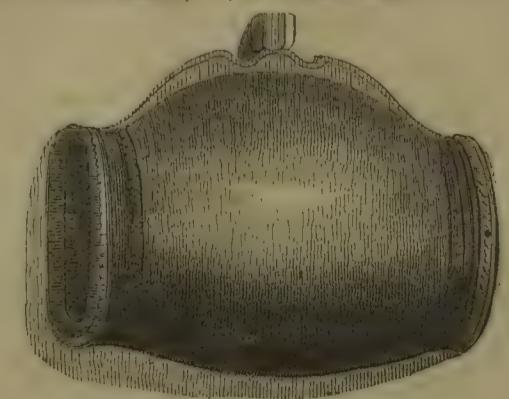


BUST AND INSCRIPTION FROM THE APOLLO ROOM OF THE DEVIL TAVERN, FLEET-STREET.



OLD BANK SIGN.—THE SQUIRRELS (GOSLING'S).

was successively—at intervals ranging from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries—the residence of three eminent London citizens, two of whom are above named; viz., Sir Thomas Gresham, and Sir Francis



OLD BANK SIGN.—THE LEATHERN BOTTLE (HOARE'S).

Child. In Sir John Gisors' time the Park was stocked with a breed of wild cattle, a remnant of which still survive at Chillingham, in Northumberland.

THE LATE CAPTAIN MONTRIOU, OF THE INDIAN NAVY.

This meritorious officer, who had served continuously for thirty-two years in the service of Government in India, died of cholera on the 29th of April last, at his residence in Colahab; and by a squadron order of the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Henry Leeke, the remains of Captain Montrou were followed to the grave by the officers and seamen of the ships in port, and the officers of the dockyard establishment at Bombay.

In the *Bombay Telegraph and Courier* Captain Montrou is characterised as a very superior officer:—"He had served in the first Rangoon war, and got a medal for it. He took a prominent share in all the East India Company's maritime surveys round by Bengal, and he was allowed to be the first surveyor of the service to which he belonged. In 1839 he came round to Bombay, and commanded the receiving-ship *Hastings*, and was acting draughtsman as well for some



THE LATE CAPT. MONTRIOU, OF THE INDIAN NAVY.

years. In this position he became a great favourite with the late Sir Robert Oliver; and he was in such good favour with seamen that he had often from three to four hundred European sailors in his ship, and by this means he made up the war complements of the ships and steamers equipped for the China war. He planned and wrote out the whole of the ordnance equipment required for the vessels of the Indian navy, and was a general referee from the highest official quarters respecting professional matters afloat; and there are few men that he could not cope with in scientific acquirements. His manner was so retired and unassuming that he never gave offence to any one, but at the same time he had a high and noble spirit, and was most warm-hearted and generous to those about him. From 1847 to 1851 he was in charge of the observatory, and he discharged the duties required of him with great ability.

"At his own request he was relieved of these duties. The Government then gave him a more lucrative appointment—namely, senior naval officer at Aden. Here he on several occasions distinguished himself in the boat attacks on the Arabs, and co-operating with the Resident for the welfare of the port, and he was constantly consulted by the Resident in political matters, on account of his great tact, learning, and experience. But at Aden private misfortunes and family bereavements told so heavily upon him as to break up his heretofore strong constitution; and, as a crowning woe to all his bitterness, and to a long and distressing illness, he was burnt out of house and home, and he and his wife and child were left utterly destitute of everything except the clothes they had on when rescued from the flames. Their case, pitiable as it was, unfortunately proved to be one which Government had no power or inclination to assist them in, and on this occasion he lost property to the amount of Rs. 26,000. He, therefore, had

to begin life anew, and on his return to Bombay was given the command of the *Queen*, in which he realised sufficient to set up and furnish a house again. After this he commanded the *Punjab*, and in 1855 was nominated Master Attendant and Captain of the Fort; but since he lost his all by fire at Aden his constitution never recovered the shock.

"His total ruin by this sad event so embarrassed his affairs that he actually had it not in his power to visit England for the recovery of his health. His whole career has been one of usefulness and honourable distinction. He, we believe, also drew up the report for the Committee of the House of Commons respecting the surveys of the East India Company. He leaves a wife and two sons and two daughters to lament his loss; and it is to be hoped that the Government will, in respect to such an old, worthy, and faithful servant, recommend his family to the consideration of the Court of Directors.

THE PUNJAB.

THE intelligence from this extensive territory on the north-west of India is at this moment especially interesting, from the movement of troops thence towards the seat of our war with Persia.

In the despatch received in anticipation of the Overland Mail it is stated that the force under Brigadier Chamberlayne had nearly reached Cabul. The *Bombay Times* of Dec. 3 contained the following:—

"An army of 5000 men has for some time past been advancing by the hills of Kohat in the direction of Cabul—so quietly that we hardly knew anything of the proceedings till a letter from an officer with the force made us aware that they had got within fifty miles of the capital of the Amer without knowing the object or destination of their dispatch. Sir John Lawrence was about to proceed to meet Dost Mahomed in person.

"This force, when last heard of, had marched through the Meeranzie Valley to Thull, sixty miles from Kohat, and 180 from Cabul. Moving onwards from Thull it crossed the river Koorum and entered the valley of that name, still keeping on the great road to Cabul.

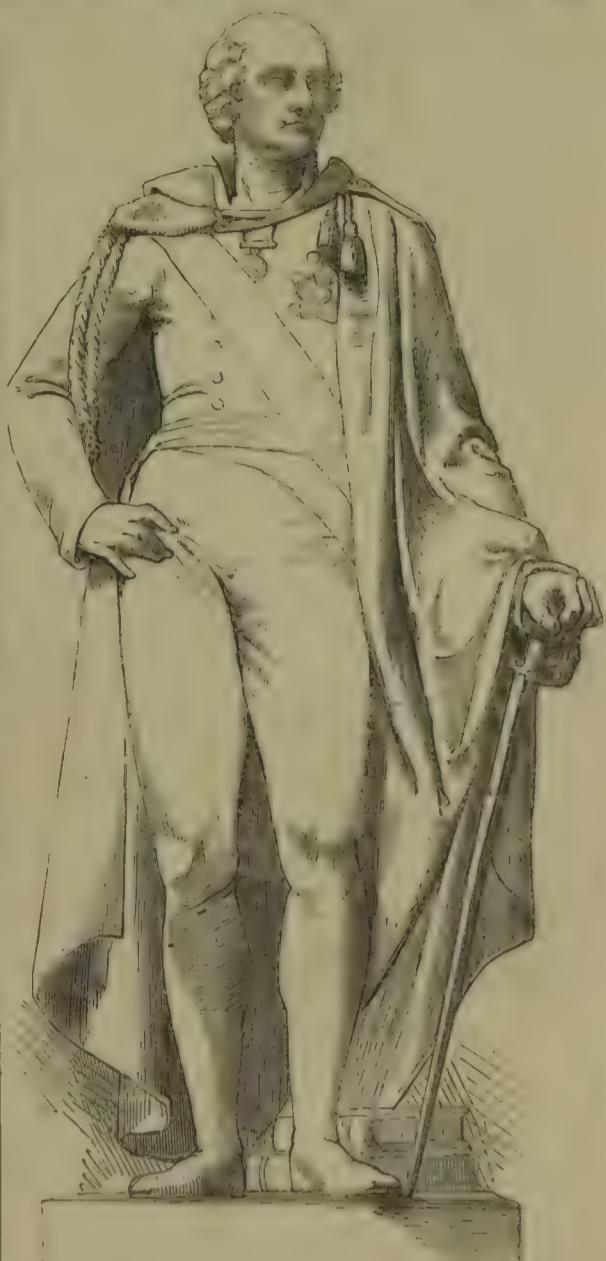
The accompanying view upon one of the six rivers of the Punjab presents a good specimen of the varied scenery of the country. The Ravee, upon whose bank this view has been sketched, rises in Kulu, on the declivity of a mountain called Bungall, and a short distance west of the Rotang Pass. The following details are from Thornton's valuable *Gazetteer of India*:—

"At the distance of about forty miles from the source, in a south-westerly direction, the Ravee is joined by two feeders, the Nye and the Boodhill—the latter taking its rise in a lake called Munce Muces, regarded as sacred by the superstitious Hindoos. Where surveyed by Cunningham, four or five miles from Burmawur, at an elevation of about 7000 feet, it was found 116 feet wide. At Chamba, about twenty miles below, and south-west of this place, or 100 miles from its source, according to the statement of Vigne, the Ravee is crossed by a bridge. Forster states that it is there "forty or fifty yards broad, and fordable at most seasons of the year." At Bisuli, to which the downward course is about twenty-five miles due west, Forster found it, early in April, about 120 yards wide, very rapid, and unfordable. The statement of Vigne's is less explicit—"I have been twice ferried over the Ravee at Bisuli—once during the rainy season, when it was swelled to a roaring torrent, and once, again, in winter, when its stream was far more tranquil. On both occasions the natives made the passage upon buffalo-hides. Its width is about eighty yards." From Bisuli, in lat. 32 deg. 34 min., long. 75 deg. 48 min., the Ravee takes a south-westerly direction, which it generally holds for the rest of its course. Macartney found it, at Meance ferry, on the route from Amritsir to Vazeerabad, and about 185 miles from its source, to have, at the beginning of August, and at the time of fullest water, a breadth of 513 yards, and a depth of twelve feet, where greatest. The deep channel was between thirty and forty feet in breadth, the rest of the waterway having a depth of from three to five feet. In the cold season, when lowest, the water is in no part more than four feet deep. Moorcroft describes it at Lahore, about twenty miles lower down, as divided into three different streams or branches. These, he states, are "separated, in the dry weather, by intervals of half a mile, but in the rainy season the two most easterly branches are united, and form an expansive and rapid stream." "The two first branches are fordable, but the third, which is the principal one, has a ferry." He remarks, that the boats on the Ravee were the largest and best-built that he has seen in India. Burns, who navigated the Ravee from its confluence with the Chenaub to Lahore, says it "is very small, and resembles a canal, rarely exceeding 150 yards in breadth in any part of its course. Its banks are precipitous, so that it deepens before it expands. Nothing can exceed the crookedness of its course, which is a great impediment to navigation, for we often found ourselves, after half a day's sail, within two miles of the spot from which we started. The water of the Ravee is redder than that of the Chenaub. It is fordable in most places for eight months in the year." From Lahore, its course south-west, measured according to the main direction of the stream, to its confluence with the Chenaub, is about 200 miles, but along all the sinuosities, 380.

THE authorities of the War Department have, we understand, determined to increase the force of the Commissariat officers on the China station, orders having been issued that a number of persons connected with that branch of the army shall hold themselves in immediate readiness to embark for Hong-Kong.

THE LATE MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN MALCOLM.*

"There cannot be found in the history of Europe," said Mr. Canning, "the existence of any monarchy which, within a given time, has produced so many men of the first talent in civil and military life as India



STATUE OF SIR JOHN MALCOLM, IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

has first trained for herself and then given to their native country." Eminent among those worthies was Sir John Malcolm, who, during fifty years, served his country with honour, judgment, and usefulness, both as a soldier and a diplomatist. His history of Persia is a standard work, and his volumes on India are manuals for Oriental statesmen. He enjoyed the personal friendship of some of the most illustrious men

* "The Life and Correspondence of Major-General Sir John Malcolm G.C.B." By John William Kaye. Smith, Elder, and Co



VIEW IN THE PUNJAB: BANKS OF THE RAVEE, AT SHAPORE.

of the age in which he flourished. The King of Persia esteemed him more than any other European who had visited his Court. Mehmet Ali, the enlightened Pacha of Egypt, admired his character and appreciated his talents. British and foreign scholars bore testimony to his literary abilities. In all the relations of private life his conduct was admirable. His biographer has done justice to his memory, not by writing a panegyric, but by recording his actions. The extended correspondence of Malcolm with his contemporaries—the leading men of his day acting on troubled scenes—is the best evidence of his high qualities; and the ninth chapter of the second volume of this biography will satisfy the most exacting reader of his intimate knowledge of Indian politics, and of the profound sagacity he brought to bear on even the most minute details of that complicated empire.

John Malcolm was born on the 2nd May, 1769, on the banks of the Esk, in Dumfriesshire. He had nine brothers and seven sisters. Through the influence of his maternal uncle, Mr. John Pasley, an eminent London merchant, he obtained a cadetship at the early age of twelve. His extreme youth rendered his acceptance by the Directors very doubtful. One of them said to him, "Why, my little man, what would you do if you were to meet Hyder Ali?" "I would cut out with my sword and cut off his head." "You will do," was the rejoinder; "let him pass." The anecdote is worth preserving, as it proves the bold spirit of the boy, and also shows the small requirements demanded in those days by the magnates of Leadenhall-street in the choice of their servants. Young Malcolm landed at Madras in 1783, and was sent to do duty at Vellore with one of the regiments in garrison at that fortress. Of his early career there are no records. He appears to have been extravagant, and soon encumbered with debts; but his wild oats were quickly sown, and he diligently commenced the study of the native languages. As a Lieutenant he joined Lord Cornwallis's camp before Seringapatam, and was there appointed Persian interpreter to the troops serving with the Nizam. "John Malcolm," says his biographer, "had now planted his foot on the ladder, and from this time to the close of his career he was uninterruptedly employed on the staff." After twelve years' absence he visited England, and on his return was present at the capture of the Cape of Good Hope by Sir Alured Clarke, who was shortly afterwards appointed Commander-in-Chief in India, when he selected Malcolm as his secretary; but the young officer was soon transferred to a similar post under Lord Harris, who had received the command of the coast army at Madras. Malcolm had diligently studied the habits, manners, and policy of the native States of India, and when the Marquis Wellesley arrived, as Governor-General, forwarded to that nobleman the results of his observations through his private secretary. They were so favourably received that the writer was at once preferred to the Residency of Hyderabad. From this period he won, and ever retained, the friendship of the Marquis Wellesley and of his brother, Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington. Under these favourable auspices Malcolm's first exploit in Oriental diplomacy was the conduct of the negotiations by which the French troops in the service of the Nizam were disbanded—a delicate operation, in which he was quite successful. Then followed the rupture with Tippoo and the capture of Seringapatam, when Malcolm was placed on the commission for settling the conquered territory of Mysore. The mission to Persia followed. On his return Arthur Wellesley gained the important Battle of Assaye against Scindiah, and General Lake broke the power of that Mahratta Prince at Laswaree. Alighur, Delhi, and Agra fell before the battalions of that veteran soldier, who was rewarded with a peacock for his brilliant victories.

Up to this period Malcolm's career had been passed in the sunshine of patronage; he was now to experience the mortifications attendant upon high office, and the penalties attached to responsibility. On him devolved the arrangement of the terms of peace with Scindiah; and he thought it just that in good faith that Prince ought to retain the fortress of Gwalior; but the Marquis Wellesley was a great advocate of territorial extension through conquest, and was highly indignant at the yielding spirit of the negotiator. Malcolm, it must be remembered, was only a subordinate diplomatic agent, and was bound to execute the orders of his superior, however repugnant to his feelings and judgment. In one of his letters, in which he endeavoured to justify himself against the charge of disobedience, he said that his only object was "the promotion of the public interests." On reading the letter the Marquis underscored those words, and appended to them this note in the margin:—"Mr. Malcolm's duty is to obey my orders and enforce my instructions. I will look after the public interests." But, however incensed the Marquis was, when the first burst of irritation was past he wrote a letter to Malcolm which effected a complete reconciliation.

Lord Cornwallis, returning a second time to supreme power in India, superseded the Marquis Wellesley. He opposed and reversed the policy of his predecessor, for he condemned territorial extension, and maintained the rights of the native Princes. In this spirit he restored Gwalior to Scindiah, and desired to abandon all our territory and alliances westward of the Jumna. But death abruptly terminated his meritorious career, and, as an instance of the curious vicissitudes of life, it may be observed that the mortal remains of this most excellent man were deposited in an unconsecrated grave on the banks of the Ganges. He was succeeded by Sir George Barlow, whose character was quite opposed to that of Malcolm, though the new Governor fully appreciated the knowledge and zeal of the soldier-statesman.

John Malcolm had now acquired large experience, and was quite capable of forming an accurate judgment on points of delicacy. On the invidious preference given to the Crown officers over those of the Company he had formed a very decided opinion; and as the late war in the Crimea afforded proof that the authorities at the Horse Guards still adhere to the old routine, which may be attended with disadvantage if we are involved in a protracted contest with Persia, it may be well to place Malcolm's views here on record. The following extracts are taken from his letter to Colonel Close, dated Mysore, 1807:

The service has always been depressed, and particularly of late, owing to the great influx of King's troops, amongst whom there must be men of higher rank and interest than there are in the Company's service; but neither of these qualities, rank or interest, will give knowledge or experience, and by the latter this empire can alone be kept. The Company's officers must, therefore (generally speaking), be the great instruments of its preservation; and the highest merit any officer of rank immediately from England can have must have its origin in a liberality of sentiment and natural discernment that enables him to employ with confidence, and successfully, those whose local information renders them exclusively fit for the service. This remark applies from the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief to a Lieutenant-Colonel of a new-raised corps just landed on the beach. The general objection to Company's officers filling those higher stations in India to which every other British subject has a right to look is their want of natural rank and distinction, and consequently of that support and confidence which every officer placed in stations of great responsibility should have from the Government he serves. This is the fruit of injustice, and they are disqualified from all hopes of attaining those stations to which they would appear, by the occupation of their whole lives, peculiarly fitted, because they have been kept from attaining that public notice and those honours to which their services were entitled by the operation of a systematic depression; and their passiveness in this state has been argued as a convincing proof of the lowness of their ambition, and their consequent unfitness for anything beyond that subordinate line of laborious drudgery for the reputation of others to which they have been hitherto destined.

Lord Minto, Governor of Madras, dispatched Malcolm on a second mission to Persia, which proved a failure; for the Crown had also sent an Ambassador to the Court of Teheran, in the person of Sir Harford Jones, and the contest of etiquette, involving the claims to relative dignity between the representative of his Majesty and the Envoy of Leadenhall-street, frustrated all useful negotiation. But Malcolm's views on Persia and Russia are clearly indicated in a letter which he addressed to Count Voronoff; and at this crisis our readers will be gratified at being put into possession of his thoughts:

The desire of securing the prosperity of Georgia, and of your other provinces in that quarter, and promoting the trade on the Caspian, will be your motives for interfering to prevent the north-western parts of Persia being disturbed, while we shall see in any troubles that disturb the southern and eastern parts of that kingdom a check to our profitable trade with the Gulf, and discover in your coming across the Arras (whatever be the professed object) a dangerous approximation to our possessions in the East. That all this will eventually happen I have no doubt. Besides the natural action of a great military empire, there is (as my whole life has given me an opportunity of observing) an impelling power upon civilisation when in contact with barbarism that cannot be resisted. These combined causes will bring Russia forward; and there is no nation more con-

stitutionally jealous than one which, like Great Britain, has its greatness in a considerable degree grounded upon extended commerce.

Malcolm then observes:—

I have never entered into the irrational project of an invasion of India. I have always been convinced that the obstacles were of a magnitude that must prevent its ever being carried into execution.

He then alludes to the impediments against the hopes of such a conquest in these terms:—

The actual state of the British power in India must baffle all predatory efforts; and before a regular, well-supported invasion could be attempted, a line of communication must be made through countries which are, generally speaking, either desolate or inhabited by the most rude and barbarous tribes of the universe. These, as a part of this plan, must be civilised—no slight process. And, after all, supposing an enormous sacrifice of wealth, and of the lives of Russian soldiers, had brought their victorious standards to Delhi—that they had, as was once proposed to Bonaparte, "hung the Mogul in his grandmother's garters"—what would they do next? Where march? How would they manage the country? Could they rely on the native Princes—all the turbulent tribes whom their success had emancipated from the English rule? Can it ever occur to any man in his senses that India is either worth conquering, or can be preserved, by any nation that does not possess the superiority at sea?

Under the Indian Government of Lord Moira, afterwards Marquis of Hastings, Malcolm was appointed Governor-General's Agent in the Deccan and Brigadier-General—in which character he joined Sir Thomas Hislop's army, and highly distinguished himself at the Battle of Mehidpoor, which annihilated the power of Holkar. We next find him wisely administering the affairs of Central India. As the reward of his long and active career, he aspired to the high office of Governor-General, but did not obtain that golden prize. However, he received the appointment of Governor of Bombay; and, on his return to England, was nominated the representative in Parliament of the Duke of Newcastle for his Grace's borough of Launceston. He opposed the Reform Bill, and was a Tory from conviction. He died in 1833. His statue (by Chantrey) stands in Westminster Abbey; and his monument on Langholm Hill, fronting the Border, erected by his countrymen of Eskdale, commemorates his fame.

Mr. Kaye has done justice to Sir John Malcolm. His volumes are highly instructive, ranging as they do over a most interesting period of history, crowded with exciting events, and illustrated by the actions of statesmen and soldiers to whom England and India owe a large debt of gratitude. To those who are never tired of reading about Waterloo and its results we recommend a perusal of the third chapter of the second volume. In the eleventh chapter of the same volume we see Malcolm as a literary man, surrounded by congenial spirits, at Hyde Hall, and gladly accompany him on his second visit to Paris, and listen to his reflections on Bonaparte's marshals, Louis XVIII., and the French savans.

THE GORTON INSTITUTE.

The first anniversary of the establishment of a literary and educational institution at the Gorton Locomotive Works, near Manchester, was celebrated by a soirée at the Free Trade Hall, on the 9th inst. Mr. Edward Watkin, the manager of the Sheffield Railway, presided. The institution was established by the workmen in the employment of the railway company at Gorton; and the somewhat extensive character of the present commemoration, which concluded with a ball, was due to the liberality of Mr. Watkin, who is the president of the institute. Between two and three thousand persons, comprising the employés of the Sheffield Company, with their families and friends, were assembled by invitation, and on the platform were many influential guests from various parts of the country.

After performances on the organ, and by a party of glee-singers, the report of the first year's progress was read by Mr. McDonald, the secretary of the institution. It stated that the institution was established, on the invitation of the railway directors, who offered the use of the necessary buildings, by the workmen at Gorton, 700 of whom resided to tax themselves for this object, by the deduction of one penny per week from the earnings of each man receiving less than 20s. per week, and of 1d. per week from the wages of those who earned 20s. or upwards. The proceeds of these subscriptions, about £180 per annum, were appropriated—one third to the schools, and two-thirds to the reading-room. There were now in the schools 200 boys and girls, whose progress was considered satisfactory. A library of 1200 volumes had been provided by the liberality of individuals connected with the company, particularly the Earl of Yarborough and Mr. Watkin, and there was still a balance of £71 for further purchases. The position and prospects of the institution generally were regarded as gratifying and encouraging.

The Chairman, who was loudly applauded on rising, said it might be useful to remark that Gorton was one of those suburbs of large towns where a considerable population had been hastily collected from every portion of the kingdom, so that the members of the new community were strangers to each other, and whilst they were yet without many of the means of civilisation and social advancement in their colony, they were also wanting in that neighbourly feeling and acquaintance which had effected so much improvement in older settlements (Hear, hear). It was, however, most creditable to the workmen at Gorton that they had set their shoulders to the wheel in the spirited manner detailed in the report. They had taxed themselves willingly, apparently conceiving that there could be no tyranny or annoyance connected with an impost which was clearly justified by their own interests. Those who felt concerned for the success of this institution were convinced that education was a working man's question. The children of the richer classes were instructed as a matter of course, but the working man was hindered from having his children well trained by the necessity of devoting his own earnings to the physical maintenance of his family, as well as of securing, as soon as possible, the earnings of his offspring. It was lamentable, indeed, that, while England stood first among the nations in commercial greatness, and in military and naval power, and while she had advanced more in the arts and sciences during the last fifty years than any other portion of the globe, the working-class education was in a more discreditable position than that of any other civilised country. It ought to call the blush of shame to the cheek of every one of us, especially those whose fortunes would not only enable them to educate their own children, but also to assist in the education of those who could not provide it for themselves, to know that 40 out of every 100 persons in this community were either totally unable to read or write, or possessed only so little of those elementary accomplishments as was of no practical use. In those European countries, on the other hand, which were usually considered the seats of despotism, and also amongst the Anglo-Saxons across the Atlantic, a man so ignorant would be positively an object of wonder (Hear, hear). But whenever a complete, general, and impartial system of popular education was proposed here, it always met the opposition of persons who seemed to be perpetually getting astride of some crotchet and denominating it a principle, and who, though suffering no injury from the prosecution of the plan, would deny the working man education because they could not administer it exactly in the way that accorded with their own convictions or views. It was high time that we set aside all those obstacles which had hitherto stood in the way of that which must raise the working man in his social and moral position. There were men still found, even in crowded industrial communities, who looked upon the working men as mere machines and instruments to execute their bidding, and as a class that never could be raised to the same position as their employers, in their own high opinion, might occupy. From such men the Gorton Institute had received very little assistance; and he might say confidently that their assistance was not at all required, for this institution had set an example that might be followed with advantage in cases where employers and their labourers possessed within themselves a great industrial organisation, which might be directed to the purposes of education.

Mr. Willey, one of the company's employés at Gorton, urged his fellow-workmen to devote greater attention to those portions of the library which were of more utility than novels, which had so far been most in request among the members.

Mr. Thomas Bazley, the President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, in proposing "Success to Popular Education," remarked that education was undoubtedly the great want of the age, and the absence of it led to failures in every pursuit in life. Success in life was only obtained by a development of the mind, which was thus enabled to render service to the individual, and to all who came within the sphere of his influence. Mr. Absalom Watkin, referring to the remarks made by Mr. Willey about the reading of novels and romances, thought that gentle man had gone a little too far. No doubt novels might be read to an injurious extent, but at the same time it must be recollected that our greatest men, for instance John Milton, was a reader, not of novels, for they did not then exist, but of romances; and that James Watt was a great reader of novels, and that many other men of great eminence had a fondness for this mode of employing their time. He agreed with Mr. Willey that it was, generally speaking, better to read history than novels, and that the reading of the history of our own country was a most useful exercise, for it was the history of one of the most prosperous nations in the world. It was the history of a great people, a compound of many races; and it must be recollected that theirs was the history of a people who had always been attempting to mend things.

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr. W. Hutton, Mr. Gamble, and Mr. Barker, directors of the railway company; Mr. Malcolm Ross, the Rev. Dr. Molesworth (Rochdale), the Rev. A. Creek (Brighton), and other gentlemen.

CHISSL.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MANCHESTER CHESS-CLUB.—The annual soirée of this, now the chief provincial Chess-club in the kingdom, is fixed, we understand, to take place on Wednesday, the 21st inst., at Wovenden's, in Market-street; and a very full attendance is anticipated to discuss the feasibility of organising a Chess demonstration at Manchester during the Art-Exhibitions. Applications for admission should be addressed to J. Kipling, Esq., Manchester. W. S.—Try again. The last is much below the standard.

A VETERAN, S. Q. A., D. T. V. Murray, and others.—Problem No. 672.—The Solution proposed in four moves is quite out of the question. What is to deter Black from taking the King's Rook, which gives check at QB 4th?

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 671, by Rughenius, Rustic, Philidor, Jun., M. P., King Cole, F. R., Man of Ross, F. C., Deborah, J. D., H. A. Nesbitt, James Russell, Woodwich, F. R., Crampton, Julius Manning, S. M. P., M. E. W., D. E. R., J. M., J. C. Y., C. E. E., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 672, by Alexander S., Manchester, B. D., F. R., Crampton, Sigma, J. D. T., F. H. M., Bradford, W. W., Potemkin, J. H., W. G., G. P., Julius Manning, F. P. W., T. H. E., J. M. S., H. O. V., D. W., J. H., B. A. N., K. D., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF EXIGMANS, by Henricus J. B. J., F. H., Czar, X., Y., Z., Alpha, Potemkin, Durante, Gwilliam, Ondron, R. Davies, T. Davies, Manchester, D. D., F. G., R. P., J. H., W. P., are correct. All others are wrong.

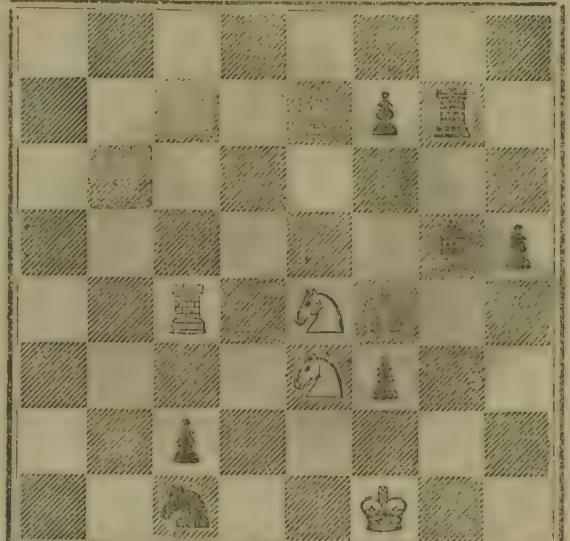
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 672.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K B 4th	Q or K it takes Q	4. B to Q (ch) B 3rd K to Q 6th	
2. K to K sq	K to its 4th	5. Kt to Q Kt 2nd	
3. Kt from Kt 2nd	K to Q 5th	6. Mate	

PROBLEM NO. 674.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

The two following games are part of a match, which excites no considerable speculation and interest among the Chess amateurs of Paris at this moment, between Messrs. HARRWITZ and DE RIVIERE:—

(Irregular Opening.)

BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (M. De R.)	BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (M. De R.)
1. P to Q 4th	P to K B 4th	19. Q to Q Kt 7th (ch) K to his 3rd	20. Q takes Q B P P to K Kt 3rd
2. P to Q 4th	K Kt to K B 3rd	21. Castles B to K Kt 2nd	22. P to K B 3rd Q to Q 4th
3. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	23. Q to Q B 2nd K to K B 2nd	24. K to R sq R to Q B sq
4. P to Q 5th	K Kt to Q Kt 2nd	25. P to K 4th Q to Q Kt 4th	26. Q to Q Kt 3rd (ch) P to Q 4th
5. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q Kt 3rd	27. R to K sq K B P takes P	28. P takes P Kt takes P
6. K Kt to K B 5th	P to K 3rd	29. B to K 3rd R to Q R 8th	29. B to K 3rd R takes R
7. K Kt to K eth	Q B takes Kt	30. R takes R B takes R	31. B to K Kt sq Q to Q B 5th
8. P takes B	Q to Q B sq (a)	32. Q to K B 3rd (ch) B to K B 3rd	33. Q to Q R 3rd Q to K B 6th
9. Kt to Q 5th	P to Q B 3rd	34. Q to Q R 7th B to K R 5th	35. P to K R 3rd B to K B 7th
10. Kt takes Q Kt (b)	Q R P takes Kt	18. K P takes Kt Q to Q R 4th	And Black resigned.
11. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q takes K P	19. Kt to Q 5th Q takes Q R P	
12. Q takes P	Q takes Q B P	20. B to K 3rd R to Q R 8th	
13. P to K 3rd	Q to Q B 4th (c)	21. R takes R B takes R	
14. Q takes Q Kt P	Q R P takes Q R P	22. Q to K B 3rd (ch) B to K B 3rd	
15. Q to Q Kt 7th (ch) K to Q 2nd	Q to Q R 4th (d)	23. Q to Q R 3rd Q to K B 6th	
16			

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

There is no foundation for the report that Sir J. Bowring is in ill health. Up to the 12th of November he was perfectly well.

The French Emperor and Empress honoured the Grand Opera with their presence on Monday evening, to witness the first representation of Verdi's opera of the "Trovatore."

The King of Hanover has been admitted member of the Hanoverian Lodge (White Horse) of Freemasons. His Majesty was passed by special diploma through the three degrees, and will shortly be inaugurated Grand Master of all Hanoverian lodges.

The Archduke Maximilian of Austria left Brussels on the 8th inst. by a special train for Germany. His Imperial Highness, who had taken leave of the King and the Princess Charlotte on the previous evening, was accompanied to the railway station by the Duke de Brabant and the Count de Flandres.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has accepted the invitation of the Curragh division to a grand ball and supper after the amateur theatricals, in camp, on the 22nd.

The King of Prussia has conferred the Grand Cross of the Red Eagle on the Marquis de Moustier, Minister of France at his Court.

The Archduke Constantine has arrived in Berlin. It is rumoured that he will visit Paris, and that he is going to Nice, after his short stay at Hanover.

On Sunday last the French Emperor and Empress had presented to them a great number of foreigners of distinction by the English, Austrian, Turkish, and Spanish Ambassadors, and by the Prussian, Bavarian, Saxon, Baden, Chilian, Wurtzburg, Mexican, Venezuelan, and Hanoverian Ministers.

Next Session Dr. Baring, Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, will take his seat in the House of Lords and read prayers daily to their Lordships. The Bishop of Ripon will not have a seat until a vacancy shall occur in some other seat than London, Durham, and Winchester, according to the Bishopric of Manchester Act passed in 1847.

The Paris papers announce the arrival of Feruk Khan, the Persian Ambassador. His suite is said to be composed of 100 followers, among whom are some of the nobility of Teheran, who solicited as a great favour to be permitted to accompany him.

Their Majesties the King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands arrived at Lahaina on the 10th October, and proceeded to Lanai, whence they returned in time to attend a ball given in their honour on board the *Crystal Palace*, commanded by Captain Simmons.

Three Commissioners are named by the protecting Powers to superintend the finances of Greece—Mr. Wise, for England; Persiani, for Russia; and Mercier, for France.

The French episcopal bench has lost another of its members. Mgr. d'Aramoles, Archbishop of Aix, in Provence, expired on the 9th at the archiepiscopal palace, shortly after having received extreme unction.

Lord Queensberry's eldest son, John Sholto Douglas, will not assume the title of Viscount of Drumlanrig, but that of Baron Douglas of Hawick and Tibbers.

The mourning of the Duke and Duchess of Brabant, on account of the death of the Duchess Henrietta of Wurtzburg, the grandmother of the Duchess of Brabant, is to continue for three months officially, and will be prolonged for six months as private mourning.

General Blaser is expected to arrive shortly in Madrid. He is the only one of the ex-Ministers of 1854 who has not yet returned to his country.

Mr. Roebuck, M.P., has promised to attend and address a public meeting of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association on the 22nd inst.

Letters from Florence mention the death of Chevalier Bologna, one of the Ministers of the Grand Duke. He was seventy-six years of age, and held the portfolio of Ecclesiastical Affairs.

At the request of the Lord Provost of Glasgow, one of the Russian guns taken at Hango, has been presented by Lord Pannure to the Corporation of Glasgow, to be placed in the public park there.

The French Emperor has pardoned M. Lebon, who was sentenced to transportation six years ago by the High Court of Justice at Versailles. At that time nineteen persons were sentenced to transportation. Of these, twelve have been set at liberty at various periods, two have died, and five still remain in captivity.

An account of Sir Charles Napier's Baltic campaign, from the pen of the Admiral himself, is about to be published.

The *Madrid Gazette* publishes a Royal decree, appointing Major-General Diego de los Rios to be Captain-General *ad interim* of the district of Valencia.

The *Moniteur* of Sunday last publishes decrees making four promotions to the rank of officer, and eight nominations to that of Knight, in the Legion of Honour, and conferring thirty military medals on different officers, sub-officers, and soldiers.

The committee have decided that Moore's monument is to be erected in Dublin, at the end of College-street, opposite the eastern front of the Bank of Ireland.

Among the wedding presents given by M. de Morny to his bride are the diamonds of the Queen of Oude, which were lately purchased for the Count in London. It is stated that he paid as much as £20,000 sterling for a single necklace.

Mr. Okey, of Trinity College, Cambridge, one of the Travelling Bachelors of that University, has been received into the Catholic Church by Father Etheridge.

Several arrests took place on Sunday last in Milan, and Count Emilio Dandolo, a young man belonging to one of the best noble families of Milan, was ordered to retire to his native village, on the plea that he was endeavouring to dissuade other Milanese noblemen from going to Court on the arrival of the Emperor of Austria.

At the sale of the effects of M. Piscatore, 9000 cigars were purchased by Mme. Doche, an actress of the Vaudevilles.

Mr. McLaren has handed over the £400 recovered by him in the action against the *Scotsman* to the Governors of Heriot's Hospital, to be applied by them to the founding of an annual prize for good conduct, in connection with the out-door Heriot schools.

The publication of the marriage of the Count de Morny with Mme. Troubesko, which the French law requires in the case of the marriage of a French subject abroad, has been posted at the Mayoralty of the 10th Arrondissement, Paris.

Mr. Hugh Miller's last work, "The Testimony of the Rocks," which he finished on the day of his death, will be published before the end of this month.

The Milan censorship is very severe just now; the last number of Canta's "History of the Italians" has been stopped, on account of a passage relating to the history of Piedmont, of the last century. M. Schiavardi, of Brescia, having in his "Scientific Facts" used some expressions hostile to the existing state of things, he has been arrested on a charge of high treason.

Among the lower orders of Paris it is said that their patron saint, St. Geneviève, must have abandoned the city, since she allowed her *neuveine* to be interrupted by the murder of the Archbishop. The superstitious augur ill for the year 1857 from that circumstance.

More than five weeks must elapse before Mr. Thackeray's appearance in Newcastle, and already the reserved seats are nearly all engaged.

La Presse of Paris is now publishing in Brussels a Belgian edition of its paper. The first number appeared on the 7th inst., and was distributed gratis to the householders of that city. In its address to the Belgian public it states that the publication for France amounts to 55,000 daily.

The Philharmonic Concerts of the season are to commence in April. As last year, they are to be six in number, and to be conducted by Professor Bennett.

A few days since a threatening letter was sent through the post-office at Banagher to a man named Martin Egan, residing in the parish of Lismagh, threatening him with a visit from "Tipperary boys," and a speedy death, if he did not immediately surrender some land which he had taken from Mrs. Granes, Cloghan Castle.

A speculator at Berlin has bethought himself of establishing a "skating academy" in a garden near the canal. This is lighted up in the evenings; and, being supplied with a tolerable band and abundant refreshments, attracts numerous customers.

The garrison of Novo Archangel, the capital of the Russian possessions in North America, has just been reinforced on account of an invasion made last year by the *Kaloschis*.

One of the largest specimens of the wild cat species ever killed in this country was trapped last week on the shooting-ground of Mr. Denistoun, of Golf-hill, at Forsnaid, Caithness-shire. It measures four feet from the nose to the tip of the tail, and when caught weighed 22lb.

M. Moron, a Spanish political writer and orator of note, has been lodged in the g. of Valencia.

THE SHIPWRECK OF THE "NORTHERN BELLE."

I.
WHAT tribute shall we give the brave
Who fight the glorious fight,
Who stand or fall in freedom's cause
Defenders of the right,
Who ward the blow that tyrants deal
And vengeance they would wreak ?
The need they claim—the wreath of fame,
The glory which they seek ;
Living, th' applause of grateful crowds
And pathways fresh with blooms ;
And, when they die, the world's regret
Emblazoned on their tombs.

II.
And what the tribute greater still
We owe the humbler brave,
Who, though the light of glory shine
Like sunlight on the wave,
Look up from sunlight to the sun,
And see, through clouds afar,
The fairer ray, more bright than day,
Of Duty's guiding star ;
Who ask no recompence of men,
To save a brother's life ?
And shame by greater bravery
The bravest deeds of strife ?

III.
What shall we give them—souls sublime,
Who in the stormy dark,
When frantic seas assault the shore,
And whirl the helpless bark
On treacherous sands, hear far away,
Amid the fitful gale,
The boom of guns, the seaman's cry,
Or dying woman's wail,
Then launch their skiff, through blinding foam
Of wild waves tempest-trod,
Their errand, Love ; their only guides,
Their own true hearts and God ?

IV.
Heroes of Peace ! No pomp of war,
Or sound of fife and drum ;
No splendour of the soldiers' craft,
Or hope of joys to come,
Make quick their pulse with high resolve,
Or nerve their honest hands ;
They only feel that Mercy calls,
And at its high commands
They look at peril face to face,
With calm, untroubled eye ;
And, when it bursts, undaunted still,
They meet it—and defy !

V.
What shall we give them ? Honor ? Fame ?
Ay, these, and something more—
The gratitude of free men's hearts,
And tribute from their store ;
Yet, not to satisfy a debt
Twould beggar gold to pay,
But, for example to the world,
High gleaming to the day ;
The gallant hearts—the hardy wights—
Who, mid the foam and swell,
Made famous in all time to come
The hapless "Northern Belle."

VI.
And those who died—the noble nine ?—
When pitying sighs are borne,
We'll not forget their orphan babes
And widows left forlorn.
If nought can dry those widows' tears,
And heal the wounded heart,
To help them in their hour of need,
Let England do its part.
Small bounty—great in its intent—
May light their household fires ;
And teach their babes in future days
To imitate their sires.

Jan. 14th, 1857.

CHARLES MACKAY.

In last week's publication we gave a brief notice of the loss of this vessel, but the brave conduct of the Broadstairs boatmen, through whose exertions the crew of that vessel were rescued from their perilous situation, deserves a more extended report.

It was about three a.m. during the dreadful storm on Monday, the 5th inst., that the *Northern Belle*, from New York to London, came to an anchor off Kingsgate, about three-quarters of a mile from the shore. A few hours later she rode very heavily, and the sea at times broke completely over her. The crew having cut away the mizen and main masts, the ship rode easier; but as the gale increased, and as it was feared that she would part from her anchor and come on shore, a message was sent to Broadstairs to that effect. The Broadstairs boatmen, who are renowned for their alacrity, immediately harnessed themselves to the truck on which the life-boat—the *Mary White*—is always ready, and proceeded to drag it from Broadstairs to Kingsgate, a distance of two miles, over a heavy and hilly country. It was nine o'clock when the boat arrived at Kingsgate. By that time the news of the ship's dangerous position was spread throughout the neighbourhood, and by eleven o'clock the cliffs were crowded by persons of all ranks from Margate, Ramsgate, and Broadstairs. At 11.30 a.m. the multitude assembled were destined to witness a very painful sight. A Margate lugger, called the *Victory*, was hovering about the ship in the hope of rendering her some assistance, when a huge sea struck her and she suddenly disappeared from sight. She and her crew went down, and were no more seen. Another lugger, the *Ocean*, of Margate, had at six a.m. put five hands on board the *Northern Belle*. At noon, it was expected every moment that the ship would run on shore upon the rocks beneath the cliff; but she held on, the crowd remaining until dark anxiously watching the vessel, despite the hail, sleet, and snow, which began to descend. Between ten and eleven on Monday night, the ship parted with her anchor and drove upon the rocks. At that hour it would have been utterly impossible to launch the life-boat, for the hail, sleet, and snow prevented the men from seeing any object whatever; and the spot whence it would be necessary to put off was distant more than half a mile. When day broke, at between six and seven o'clock next morning, an awful

sight was revealed to those on the cliffs and on the beach. With the naked eye could be seen twenty-three men lashed to the rigging of the only mast left standing. What these poor creatures must have suffered during the night the reader will readily imagine.

At half-past seven o'clock on Tuesday morning the life-boat, the *Mary White*, was manned. Since July, 1850, when this boat was presented to the boatmen of Broadstairs by Mr. Thomas White, of Cowes, she has saved many lives, and her crew have encountered many dangers; but never had she been engaged in a matter of such peculiar peril. Ten brave men pulled through a boiling surf and raging sea, which several times hid them from sight, and filled all with alarm for their safety. When seven out of the twenty-three men upon the wreck had been got into the life-boat it was found necessary to cut her adrift and disentangle her from the ship. With these seven men the boat returned to the shore amid the cheers of the many persons assembled on the beach.

A second life-boat, which had also been wheeled from Broadstairs, to be ready in the event of the first life-boat being lost, was now launched, and went off to the wreck. She succeeded in bringing away fourteen. The two remaining were the captain and the pilot, who had been taken in at Dover. The former declared that he would rather die than leave his vessel, and the latter expressed a desire to remain and perish in the old man's company. After an hour and a half had elapsed the life-boat for the third time left the shore in order to persuade these two men to save their lives. After much difficulty the crew of the boat succeeded in inducing them to come off the rigging and go to the land. It is impossible to describe the scene on the beach when it was known that all hands had been saved. A more affecting scene was seldom witnessed. There were tears of gratitude shed by the Americans, tears of joy and of pride by the Broadstairs boatmen. Benumbed as the shipwrecked men were, they could scarcely partake of the refreshment which was provided for them in the little warm parlour of "The Captain Digby," the solitary inn which stands upon the cliff at Kingsgate.

At three o'clock on Tuesday the *Mary White* was dragged upon her truck by three horses into Broadstairs. In the boat sat her gallant crew. Tied to an American oar was the American standard which was so recently hoisted as a signal of distress. The tattered flag fluttered over the broken bows of the *Mary White*. It was thus that the boat passed through the streets of Broadstairs, amidst the joyous shouts of the inhabitants of the town. We have engraved this stirring scene.

Nearly all the brave fellows who, at the imminent peril of their own lives, were thus engaged in restoring to America the lives of nineteen of those seamen of whom she is so justly proud, are married men with large families of small children; and there is not a man among them who has not assisted in saving life, and who has not, at some period, lost a father, brother, or cousin in the same glorious cause.

A subscription has been opened to reward the deserving and self-sacrificing conduct of the crews of the two boats; and General Robert Campbell, the United States' Consul in London, has appealed in their behalf to the American residents in the metropolis; and Mr. Joseph Rodney Croskey has generously subscribed £50 to the above fund. Mr. Laing, in a letter to the *Times*, states the names of the crews of the boats, and adds some well-timed details:—

Crew of the *Mary White*.—John Castle, George Castle, William Hiller junior, Robert Miller, James Rowe, George Emptage, Edward Emptage. This boat saved seven hands.

Crew of the *Culmer White* on her first trip to the wreck.—John Cowell, William Wales, Jethrow Miller, John Sandwell, George Emptage, Thomas Holborn, William Ralph, Robert Gilbert, Robert Parker. Saved fourteen hands.

Crew of the *Culmer White* on her second trip to save the Captain and Pilot.—John Cowell, William Wales, Jethrow Miller, Jerry Walker, Fred Lawrence, Thomas Sandwell, Robert Simpson, James Bere, Robert Parker, George Emptage, Alfred Emptage.

These men, sir, were not labouring under any species of excitement when they engaged in the perilous duty which they performed so nobly and so well.

Under the impression that these men would never return—the impression of all who witnessed their departure from the shore—I watched their countenances closely. There was nothing approaching bravado in their demeanour—noting to give a spectator an idea that they were about to engage in a matter of life or death to themselves and the crew of the ship clinging to the fore rigging of the *Northern Belle*. They had no hope of a "decoration," or of pecuniary reward when, with a coolness of manner and a calmness of mind which contrasted strongly with the energy of their movements, they "stripped to their shirts" and bounded into the *Mary White* and the *Culmer White* to storm batteries of billows far more appalling to the human mind than batteries surmounted by cannon, and bristling with bayonets. There could be no question about the heroism of these men.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AT VENICE.—A letter from Venice states that the Emperor of Austria, who was still at Venice when the Count and Countess de Chambord arrived there, paid them a visit, and had them to dine with him on the following day. The intended amusements at Milan during the stay of the Emperor will include:—Illumination a giorno of La Scala Theatre, which their Majesties will honour with their presence in the evening. In the night of the 18th a corso notturno, a favourite amusement of the Italians, and which consists of an incessant promenade of carriages, brilliantly lighted up, and accompanied by bands of music, through all the finest parts of the city, and in the midst of a general illumination. In the night of the 21st a grand ball will take place at La Scala, in which will be introduced an allegorical ballet composed expressly for the occasion. Lastly, a distribution of a sum of £0,700 Austrian livres in different works of charity.

SOFT SAWDER.—The French papers are much amused with Sir Robert Peel's speech, and give copious extracts from it, together with translations from the comments of the London journals. The *Assemblée* of Saturday devotes an article of four columns to the matter, but it is only remarkable for the floundering attempts made to translate the Yankee expression "soft sawder." The *redacteurs* of the *Assemblée*, who probably put their heads together and consulted all their dictionaries, give the result of their learned researches in the following note:—"It is all soft sawder," an expression more American than English, and one which it is impossible to translate literally. "Soft sawder" means a sawyer who handles his saw lazily, and does but little work. "A soft sawder" is what, in the language of working people, is called *un lâbin, un grand lâche, une poulie mouillée*." Having by this lexicographical process obtained a choice of epithets, the *Assemblée* selects *lâbin* as the most appropriate, and accordingly in the text of the article it is represented that Sir Robert Peel, instead of saying that the Grand Duke's frankness and cordiality was all "soft sawder," called him a "great drone" (*lâbin*).

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES IN AUSTRALIA.—The number of births registered in the colony during the last ten years—viz., from 1846 to 1855 inclusive—was 40,590 males, 39,352 females. The proportions of the respective sexes in each 10,000 births were, in ten years, 5072 males, 4928 females. The deaths registered during the same period numbered 18,429 males, 12,368 females. The average mortality of males during 1851 to 1855 was 1 to 61; that of females, 1 to 66. The net gain to the population by the excess of births over deaths was—

	1846-50.	1851-55.	Total.
Births	35,614	41,408	



SHIPWRECK OF "THE NORTHERN BELLE:" THE CREW OF "THE MARY WHITE," IN THEIR LIFE-BOAT, DRAWN THROUGH BROADSTAIRS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



PRIVATE THEATRICALS AT TAVISTOCK HOUSE.—SCENE FROM "THE FROZEN DEEP."

TAVISTOCK HOUSE THEATRICALS.

TWELFTH-NIGHT was signalised at Mr. Dickens' residence by one of those dramatic performances which have so frequently done honour to the talent and taste of our great novelist. An entirely new romantic drama was provided for the occasion. It is in three acts, and the production of Mr. Wilkie Collins, whose genius for this class of piece it charmingly illustrates. Under the title of "The Frozen Deep," the rigours of the Arctic regions are scenically portrayed, both by description and the pencil of Mr. Stanfield and Mr. Danson. Previously, however, to their exhibition, we have a most effective domestic scene in Kent, painted by Mr. Telbin, in which the members of the family of Captain Ebsworth and Lieutnants Crayford and Steventon, who are on board certain vessels engaged in an expedition at the North Pole, are assembled, and disclose the

sufferings and the suspense by which they are agonised during the absence of their beloved relatives. These consist of five young ladies—*Mrs. Steventon* (Miss Helen), *Rose Ebsworth* (Miss Kate), *Lucy Crayford* (Miss Hogarth), *Clara Burnham* (Miss Mary), and the *Nurse Esther* (Mrs. Wills), with their *Maid* (Miss Martha). The exceedingly natural manner in which these fair young creatures enacted and discoursed of their sorrows gave to this private performance an advantage over any possible public representation; it was, in a word, exquisite. The part of *Clara Burnham* was, indeed, an ambitious one, and required excellent acting. It was rendered with feeling, grace, and pathetic emphasis. This lady has two lovers—one *Richard Wardour*, performed by Mr. Charles Dickens himself, and the other *Frank Aldersley* (Mr. Wilkie Collins), to whom she is engaged. The former has vowed a terrible vengeance against his rival. And, now that they are both on the Polar Seas together, *Clara's* fears are awakened, and haunt her ima-

gination continually. To deepen the impression still more, *Nurse Esther* pretends to second sight, and predicts the most fatal catastrophe; this character was admirably impersonated by her representative. The Arctic scenes are, however, the great scenes of this excellent drama. Here we meet with *Crayford*, *Aldersley*, and *Wardour*, about whom the tragic interest gathers. Doubts are entertained of the character of the last from his strange conduct. This arises from "the pangs of despised love" with which his heart still wrestles. As yet he knows not who his rival may be, and does not suspect that he dwells in the same hut with him. *Lieutenant Crayford*, a bluff, hearty sailor (finely acted by Mr. Mark Lemon), takes a strong interest in him, and believes in his inherent goodness. But at length his faith gives way; for, in a well-managed conversation, he penetrates the state of *Wardour's* soul, and forms of his tendencies the most awful judgment. Soon after *Wardour* makes the discovery that *Aldersley* is his rival; and his reso-



'BRINGING HOME THE DEER.'—PAINTED BY BOTTOMLEY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

lution is formed to accomplish the vengeance on which he had so long brooded. Wenext find all the party, with the young ladies, on the shore of Newfoundland. But *Wardour* and *Aldersley* are for a while missing, and *Crayford* is haunted with the horrible suspicion that the latter has been made the victim of the former. *Wardour* in rags, wild as a maniac, rushes into the cave. He claims food and drink, part of which he takes, and carefully preserves the rest in a wallet. *Crayford* at last recognises him—endeavours to seize him—but the madman dashes away, soon to return, with poor exhausted *Aldersley* in his arms. He had become the preserver of the man whom he had seduced to the most desolate spots on the Arctic snows for the purpose of destroying. He makes full reparation for his intended crime; and, ere his death, blesses the union of *Clara Burnham* and *Frank Aldersley*. The reader will perceive that Mr. Charles Dickens had in such a character as this a part that required the consummate acting of a well-practised performer. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the artistic interpretation that it received from him. It was a fervid, powerful, and distinct individuality, thoroughly made out in all its details. A very fine overture and some charming incidental music, composed by Mr. Francesco Berger, were admirably performed by a small chamber orchestra.

Mrs. Inchbold's excellent farce of "Animal Magnetism" concluded the evening's amusements. The *Doctor* was capitally impersonated by Mr. Dickens; and Mr. Mark Lemon, as *Pedrillo*, was again most effective, and withal natural—acting with equal modesty and skill.

On Wednesday last the concluding representation took place—the performances ending with Buckstone's excellent farce of "Uncle John." Mr. Dickens, as the vigorous old gentleman of seventy, displayed a new phase of his versatile genius, and proved himself a consummate actor; while Mr. Augustus Egg and Miss Hogarth, in the parts of *Mr. and Mrs. Hawk*, gave proofs of histrionic powers, which might well qualify them for any stage. There was a large but select audience present, including the principal celebrities of law, literature, science, and the arts—who have the privilege and the happiness of Mr. Dickens's acquaintance.

"BRINGING HOME THE DEER."

This characteristic scene is engraved from a drawing made by Mr. Bottomley on a recent visit to the Highlands of Scotland. The locality is the wild and desolate district well known to sportsmen as the Marquis of Breadalbane's Deer Forest of Blackmount. The Artist thus describes the incident:—The gralloching being over, a stick was quickly tied to the horns of the hart, and the strong foresters carried off the heavy animal through the stream, over the hills to the point where the pony was waiting to bring the prize home. Following are two fierce-looking hounds, eager again to set upon their prey, but prevented by the Gillie. The general sport is thus vividly described:

Many of the Scottish forests, wherein the stalking of deer in their wild state is practised, are of immense extent. It is on such tracts of land as the forests of Marr, Atholl, and Invercauld—not inferior to the smaller English counties in extent—that the red-deer is sought. The forest of Atholl alone is said to be more than forty miles long, and in one part eighteen broad, of which about 30,000 imperial acres are devoted to grouse, 50,000 partly to grouse and partly to deer, and there are reserved solely for deer-stalking 52,000 imperial acres. In these vast solitudes—if the longevity assigned to deer by tradition be true—the Highlander stalks the identical harts which, a century ago, bore the scars of the weapons of his ancestors. The dogs are slipped and put upon the scent, and are out of sight in a moment. The stalker follows; he again climbs a considerable way up the heights; he applies the telescope, but nothing of life can be behold, except his few followers on the knolls around him. With his ear to the ground he listens, and amidst the roar of innumerable torrents, faintly hears the dogs baying the quarry, but sees them not; he moves on from hill to hill towards the sound, and eventually another shot makes the hart his own. The deer are then bled and gralloched, and partially covered with peat; the horns are left upright, and a handkerchief is tied to them to mark the spot, that the hill-men may find them at the close of the day. The interest of all this is enhanced by the majestic scenery of an immense, trackless, treeless forest—to which domesticated life is a stranger—where mountain, corrie, cairn, and glen, thrown promiscuously together, present the grandest of savage landscapes, and as the field of wild adventure, cast into shade what Mr. Scrope not unaptly designates "the tame and hedge-bound country of the South!"—*Black's Picturesque Tourist of Scotland.*

PRESENTATION OF PLATE AND TESTIMONIAL TO A. G. EASTWOOD, ESQ.—The inhabitants of Todmorden and Hebden-bridge have just presented Mr. A. G. Eastwood, attorney at law, and clerk to the magistrates, a handsome service of plate, comprising an elegant coffee and tea service, in acknowledgment of his services, relative to the postal arrangements for the district. Prior to the recent alterations, no letters were delivered earlier than ten o'clock, and many of them were an extra day on the road. No letters could be dispatched later than three o'clock. The free delivery was limited to a radius of about 300 yards around the two post-offices, and no receiving-houses existed. The letters now arrive before eight o'clock, thus securing delivery before the merchants and tradespeople start for the markets, and are dispatched several hours later.

PRESENTATION OF A PIANOFORTE.—A pianoforte has been presented to Mr. J. G. Walton, as a testimonial for his indefatigable zeal as choir-master of the parish church, Bradford. Mr. Walton has long laboured gratuitously, and has brought the choir of the parish church to a much higher state of efficiency than was formerly the case. The idea of presenting him with a pianoforte originated with the choir, who have contributed freely, and through the exertions of Mr. C. Woodcock and Mr. Blamires, a handsome sum was raised. This has been expended on a beautiful seven-octave rosewood cottage pianoforte, by Kirkman and Sons. The tone and touch are delightful, and the instrument reflects the highest credit on the maker.—*Bradford Observer.*

READING, LITERARY, AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.—This institution, of which Prince Albert and many of the nobility are patrons, and Mr. Charles Dickens the President, was reopened by the Lord Bishop of Oxford, on the 11th November, with an admirable introductory address. The present list of lecturers includes many men eminent for station and talents—the Dean of Westminster, the Rev. Charles Kingsley, and many others. We were present last Tuesday at a very amusing and instructive lecture, well delivered by Mr. G. Douglas Thompson, of Cheltenham (now well known as an elocutionist and corrector of vocal and articulative defects), on "Poetry and Ballad Music." Mr. Thompson's clear enunciation and very flexible voice, the acquirement of long practice and study of his art, enable him to give great effect to an anecdote, a dramatic dialogue, or an English ballad—and he gave very successful specimens of his powers in all these ways, much to the gratification of his audience. There being, however, a general complaint that the lecture was too short, and Mr. Thompson stepping on the platform accidentally, or to remove his papers, the audience, who were retiring, thought he had reappeared to address them, and greeted him with such applause that he was, in a manner, compelled to reseat himself at the pianoforte, and, after singing two more ballads, bowed his thanks and retired.

SOMERLEYTON HALL.—In our Number for last week, in describing this fine seat of Sir Samuel Morton Peto, Bart., we omitted to state that the whole of the oak carving and furniture, which is all of the same character (*temp. James I.*), were designed and executed by Mr. J. W. Wilcox, of Warwick; as well as the furniture of the drawing-room, boudoir, &c.

MARRIAGE OF THE COUNT DE MORYN.—M. de Morny was married in St. Petersburg on Tuesday, the 6th inst., to the Princess Sophie Troubetzkoi, daughter of the Princess Troubetzkoi, who passes for being the Egeria of M. de Kisseleff. The bride is just eighteen, the bridegroom fifty-two or fifty-three: the new Countess Morny has been brought up at the Institution of the Imperial Maids of Honour, and the Empress Dowager wished to give her to the reigning Empress as one of her ladies, but the Empress Marie said she would have nothing to do with her, for that she was "far, far too beautiful." Of a truth, her beauty does pass for something extraordinary, incomparable. Persons of her own family speak of her as "fearfully beautiful." There is no doubt that this may be a clever move on the part of Russian politicians, and be much less indifferent to the march of public affairs than might be at first supposed. The Czar has now a permanent agent at the Court of the Tuilleries, and M. de Morny may possibly be more influential than ever, and Russia find a more able ambassador in the lovely Princess Troubetzkoi than either the aged Princess Lieven, or any of her other crinoline diplomats. The Princess, her mother, has resided a long time in France. Count de Morny, it is said, presented his bride on her marriage with diamonds to the value of two millions. Two days before he had requested and obtained, by telegraph, the consent of the Emperor Napoleon to the marriage.—*Letter from St. Petersburg.*

DISCOVERY OF MOLIERE'S LETTERS.—It is announced in the French papers that a discovery has been made in the provinces—place and person not specified—of a collection of letters written during the time of Louis Quatorze, by several Jesuits belonging to the College of Clermont, and addressed to one Birnier, who is stated to have been a friend and fellow collegian with Molière. Among these several letters by the great comic writer have been found, dated towards the year 1654, from Montpellier, and referring to "Le Dépit Amoureux," which comedy was produced about that period. These, as all students of Molière's life are aware, will prove of rare, almost of unique, value—if they can be established as genuine.

Memorabilia, LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

"A little shink may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

THE WAR MEDAL FOR HER MAJESTY'S FLEETS IN THE
BALTIMORE, A.D. 1854-1855.



WHEN the Queen had reviewed the magnificent fleet prepared for the service of 1856, with her invariable appreciation of merit in every branch of her services, she was graciously pleased to announce to the Baltic Admiral that it was her intention to command a medal for distribution to all who had taken share in the blockade of Russia in the Baltic during the war; and we have before us this additional testimony of her Majesty's beneficent consideration.

The obverse presents the same fine portrait of the Queen as the other war medals engraved by the late Wm. Wyon, R.A. The reverse is executed by his son, Leonard Wyon, and the composition of both is equally appropriate and classical. Britannia is sitting (we may suppose, on the quarter-deck of the flag-ship), and at the extremity of the sea perspective are Sveaborg and Bormsund. Her right hand grasps the uplifted trident; the left rests on the cube that forms her seat. The attitude of Britannia is extremely graceful, the expression alive and intensely vigilant—"a lookout," from which not a rag of the enemy's sail could escape detection; the figure, indeed, appears ready to spring up at a moment's warning, and aptly symbolises the burning anxiety of the whole fleet during the two seasons that they kept "watch and ward" on Russia, that they might fall to or fall off the ships and fortresses of the Czar.

The engraving of this personification of "hope deferred" in artistic merit is upon a par with its poetical conception; the draperies are simple and effective; the anatomy delicately true to nature, and that nature dignified female beauty. Over the figure is inscribed "Baltic," in the exergue, "1854-55," and below, "L. C. Wyon."

NOTES.

THE BOSWELL CORRESPONDENCE.—Considerable interest has been excited by the recent publication of the correspondence between the biographer of Johnson and the Rev. Mr. Temple. The latter was Rector of Mamhead, in Devon, where he was frequently visited by Boswell; and particular allusion is made to the yew-tree in the churchyard there. Mamhead is beautifully situated on the acclivity of a bold eminence, commanding fine views of the southern coast, a few miles east of Exeter. The estate, in the seventeenth century, belonged to the Balle family, of whom there is an account in "Prince's Worthies of Devon." It afterwards passed, by purchase, to the Nightingales. An heiress of that family conveyed it by marriage to the Hon. Wilmot Vaughan, Earl of Lisburne. The third Earl sold it to Sir Robert William Newman, Bart., who represented the city of Exeter in several Parliaments. He took down the old seat of the Balles and built the present magnificent mansion. He was succeeded by his son, the late Sir Robert Lydstone Newman, who fell in the Crimean war. A monument has been erected to his memory in the church by the gentry of Devon, by whom the family is held in great respect. He was succeeded by his brother, the present Baronet. The church is a small edifice in the park, near the mansion. It appears from the Rev. George Oliver's "Ecclesiastical Antiquities of Devon," article "Mamhead," that William Johnson Temple was instituted to the Rectorate on the 22nd September, 1766, on the presentation of the Hon. Wilmot Vaughan. He ceded the living; and Stephen Weston, F.S.A., was admitted 29th March, 1777, at the presentation of the same patron, who had shortly before been created Earl of Lisburne. Boswell continued his correspondence until his death in 1795. Can any of your numerous correspondents say what became of Temple? I can find no trace of him after he left Mamhead. An unfounded legend has been connected with Mamhead, which may deserve to be mentioned in refutation. A blundering writer in an Exeter newspaper, some years ago, stated that Thompson's celebrated tale, in the "Seasons," of "Celadon and Amelia," originated in an accident which occurred in the woods of Mamhead, where Mrs. Nightingale was killed by a flash of lightning when walking with her husband, and died in his arms. No such accident ever occurred. The tale in question was taken from a narrative in Pope's Letters, which describes the sudden death of two rural lovers by lightning under a haystack. This happened near Nuneham Courtenay, in Oxfordshire, the seat of Earl Harcourt. The unfortunate peasants were buried in the church of Nuneham, where a tomb and inscription were raised to their memory. In fact the Nightingale family were not possessed of Mamhead when Thompson published his "Summer," in which is the tale of Celadon and Amelia. Could it have originated from the celebrated monument in Westminster Abbey by Roubiliac, to the memory of Mrs. Nightingale, where her husband is warded off the stroke of death from his dying wife?—A DEVONSHIRE RECTOR.

ANOTHER ODE ON THE DEATH OF SIR JOHN MOORE.—Mr. Fitzpatrick's recent interesting paper on Wolfe's Ode to the Memory of Sir John Moore, has reminded me of some old lines on the same sad subject, not of any remarkable intrinsic beauty, but interesting from their having been written on the night of Sir John Moore's death by an officer of distinguished merit and station. After a search through some musty papers I have found it. Everybody knows Wolfe's lines, written seven years after the retreat at Corunna; but the following, written on the spot by an eye-witness, will be perfectly new to your readers. It derives its interest from the subject, and circumstances of its composition, not from the matter:—

H. EDGEWORTH.

ODE ON THE DEATH OF SIR JOHN MOORE.
Avant, withdraw your steps profane,
Here then, at Freedom's dearest shrine,
Ye slaves, who hug th' invaders chain;
Hence from this hallowed grave,
But you, Spain's chosen sons, draw near;
Tis yours to grace with virtue's tear,
The spot where sleeps the brave.
For you his gallant bands he led,
And fell, by all deplored!
Abashed, appalled, the trembling Gaul
Beheld the hero's glorious fall,
And fled from Britain's sword.

ABSALOM'S HAIR.—The late Dr. Kitto, in his very valuable Notes to the "Pictorial Bible," says that "the sacred historian condescends to notice the circumstance of 'Absalom's hair being weighed at 200 shekels after the King's weight,' in order to explain and give point to the fact that the locks which Absalom so fondly cherished became subsequently the occasion of his death" (II. Sam. xiv., 26.) But is not this "fact" nothing more or less than a Jewish tradition? It has not the authority of Scripture, which says that "Absalom rode upon a mule; and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth, and the mule that was under him went away" (II. Sam. xviii., 9.) Here there is not a word about Absalom's hair, or his dying in the manner with which Scripture prints have made us familiar. In fact, unless we are to imagine that Absalom had lost his helmet during the fight, his head must have been so covered that it was not possible for him to have been suspended by his hair. For, as helmets and other defensive armour were then generally worn (the first complete suit that we read of was that worn by Goliath of Gath), we may reasonably suppose that Absalom's head was thus pro-

tected. It seems more probable, therefore, that, instead of his hair being entangled in the oak boughs—as tradition says and art paints—"his head caught hold of the oak," as says the Scripture, being wedged in between the boughs, in such a manner that he would not only be unable to release himself, but would also be faint and powerless from semi-strangulation. If he wore a helmet it may, by its shape, have increased the helplessness of his position; but, at any rate, his hair seems to have had nothing to do with the matter. Its weight has also been a matter of speculation for the curious. Abundant hair was then a glory to a man, and not, as in St. Paul's time, a shame (I. Cor. xi., 14). With Absalom it would appear to have been, not a glory, but a vanity. Its weight we are told, was "200 shekels after the King's weight." Bp. Cumberland, computing this by the Jewish shekel, makes the weight of Absalom's hair to have been 8lb. 4oz. troy. (The average weight of an Englishman's head of hair is from four to five ounces). But, the Books of Samuel were revised after the Babylonian captivity, and "the King's weight" might mean the Babylonian shekel, which, being about a third of the Hebrew shekel, would reduce the weight of the hair to something over two pounds. Its natural weight may have been artificially increased, if, (as seems not improbable), it was plastered with unguents, and thickly sprinkled with grains of gold. Dr. Kitto says, "Others, again, suppose that 200 shekels mean the *value* of the hair when sold; but it does not seem likely that the King's son would sell his hair, nor can we see to what use it could be applied by those who bought it." On this point, I extract from a family Bible (black letter, 1634), the following manuscript note by a clerical ancestor:—"We cannot suppose yt y^e loppings of Absalom's hair weighed either 50 or 100 oz. But yt wt it was cut off, his servants might have sold it for 12lb. 10s., or 25lb. to y^e Ladys of Jerusalem, who were ambitious of adorning yr heads wth y^e Hair of y^e beautiful Absalom; wth y^e locks of y^e K^s son." This is an ingenious suggestion, and not inconsistent with the character of Absalom; for, though it seems doubtful whether false hair was worn by Jewish women in the form of a wig, yet they may occasionally have worn locks of hair as an ornament or *gaye d'amour*. It is recorded that when Absalom was buried "they laid a very great heap of stones on him" (Joshua vii, 26; viii, 29). Was this in detestation and abhorrence, or in honourable memory of a Prince and Chief? If the former, did it give rise to the custom of flinging stones on the grave of malefactors?—CUTHBERT BEDE, B.A.

QUERIES.

LONGLEAT AND THE WARS OF THE ROSES.—In reading an article on the rose, the other day, I met with an anecdote to the effect that, during the civil wars in England, between the houses of York and Lancaster, a French rose-tree (*Rosa Gallica*) was discovered in a garden at Longleat, covered on one side with white roses, and on the opposite with red; that immediately on this being rumoured abroad, crowds of anxious citizens went to see the great prodigy, and that all beheld it, and returned to their homes happy in the belief that it portended the speedy return of peace to their country by a union of the rival powers. According to the same tradition, we are informed that a short time afterwards the tree bore roses of mixed petals, and immediately followed the marriage of Henry VII. and Elizabeth, thus fulfilling the floral prediction by the friendship and union of the contending parties. The rose was, I should think, an early specimen of our "York and Lancaster," a red and white—the colours of the two houses—hence its name; and although probably the account is only a mere fable, it has, like many others, found its way into history. Perhaps some of your readers can inform me of the worthy historian who first recorded the circumstance, as I am curious to know to whom the story owes its preservation? Longleat—though now one of the most princely mansions in England—was, at the period of which I am speaking, but an insignificant priory, of the history of which little is known before the Reformation, when the church—robbing Henry seized the site and lands attached to it, and granted them to Sir John Horsey, of Clifton, county Dorset; after which the whole was purchased by Sir John Thynne, who in 1567 commenced building the present superb structure, and from whom it has lineally descended to its present noble proprietor, the Marquis of Bath.

W. C., Oatlands Park.

WHERE DOES THE DAY BEGIN?—Permit me to vary W. Symons's question in your "Memorabilia" for January 10th by asking. Where does any particular day of the week (say Monday) begin and end? In India, and I suppose also at Hong-Kong, it begins several hours before commencing in Europe; in America, several hours later, making the circuit of the earth in twenty-four hours. Somewhere, in the Pacific, perhaps, the minute after midnight must cease being called Monday, and take the name of Tuesday. Will some of your correspondents, learned in these matters, tell us where?—ROBERT BARNES.

THE SONG OF "THE BAY OF BISCAY, O!"—Can any of your readers throw light on the origin of the well-known song, written by Andrew Cherry, called "The Bay of Biscay, O!"? There is another ballad of the same name, written by a homely mariner in true Grub-street doggerel, containing eight verses, with four lines in each verse, which alludes to the "Rumsey" and "Lady o' Canterbury," and records that the vessel (not named) about which the song was written sailed from Spithead for Gibraltar on the 14th of April: the year is not given. The incidents it speaks of are a "white squall," loss of main and fore masts, three guns; five men drowned, and the captain killed on the quarterdeck by a stroke of lightning. One or other, or both these songs are supposed to have reference to a ship, name untraced, which landed with military recruits raised in Scotland on the 16th April, 1791, at Gibraltar. The vessel had lost her masts in the Bay of Biscay, and sailed jury-rigged to the fortress. There is no question that a song with the title of "Bay of Biscay, O!" was written concerning this ship; but which, is the point to ascertain. Cherry's song is a general one; but the seaman's alludes to the straits of a particular ship: what was the name of that ship? If the sailor's ballad have reference to the vessel which landed the military recruits, there is a discrepancy not easily to be accounted for with respect to the dates. The song has it that the vessel sailed from Spithead on the 14th April; the official record states that the recruits landed on the 16th April, from Scotland. This is a long story. It may, nevertheless, be worth the inquiry, not only to establish a point in the annals of a particular corps, but to establish the history of either or both songs.—R. E.

I will add for your information the second and third verses of the seaman's ballad:—

The 14th day of April from Spithead we set sail
With the Rumsey in our company, with a sweet and pleasant gale,
We both sailed out together, for the Bay of Biscay O,
When the white squall came on us and the stormy wind did blow.

The white squall came on us, and the Rumsey bore away;
We left the Lady o' Canterbury, for we could no longer stay;
She sail'd into Gibraltar, and told the people so,
That she thought we were lost, in the Bay of Biscay O.

The verses narrating the disasters follow.

MONEY BEQUEATHED FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES.—Can you or any of your readers give me a few of the most memorable instances in history of men having bequeathed money for religious purposes? W. C.

I HAVE often met with this line, can you tell me whose it is?—F.R.S.
"He comes too near, that comes to be denied."
[It occurs in Sir Thomas Overbury's admirable little poem, "A Wife."]

Womens behaviour is a surer barre
Then is their no; that fairly doth deny
Without denying; thereby kept they are

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